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Police Vehicles and Accessories

↑ 21TR Plus MultiColor Lightbar

Code 3, Inc. now offers multicolor capability in its **21TR Plus** lightbar. This lightbar provides multiple colors from one lighthead module – no splits, just one full color signal followed by another full color signal. The advantages of multicolor technology is the ability to turn red/white or blue/white modules in the front or rear of the lightbar into an all white takedown light for additional scene lighting and the ability to turn red/amber or blue/amber modules in the rear to an all amber NarrowStik™ for directing traffic. The **21TR Plus MC** also offers multicolor takedown and alley lights.

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← New Bar for PIT Maneuvering

The US patent pending **PIT Bar Elite**, from Westin Public Safety Division, bolts directly to Westin's Push Bumper Elite at the ideal upper bumper level for implementing PIT maneuvers. It is made of heavy-duty 7-gauge HRPO steel; features two, 2 3/4" wide bumpers with nylon bolted end caps for a finished look; HD frame mounts for maximum strength and capability; and black plated stainless steel hardware for added rust protection at predrilled mounting points.

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New Universal Gunlock →

The **SC-5 XL**, from Santa Cruz Gunlocks LLC, can secure nearly any long gun in the same gun rack. A thick, stainless steel arm ratchets down to a spot you pick on the weapon and holds it in a strongbox of stainless steel plates and rivets. Your weapon, though, will only touch soft rubber. This adjustability in locking diameter, combined with the **SC-5 XL**'s ability to slide and lock into any position along the 18" to 36" mounting bar, allows users to quickly configure their gun rack to fit the weapon they are looking to secure.

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↑ New Innovative Lightbar

The **Liberty™ II Super-LED®** lightbar, from Whelen Engineering, is built with improved thermal management and contiguous light. With a height of 2.8", this low profile lightbar remains virtually undetectable until in use and is available in SOLO™ (single color), DUO+™ (two color interleaved), and DYAD™ (two color over/under) models. Each DUO+ lighthead can be operated independently or at the same time. The aluminum top shield and hard coated lenses are designed to withstand harsh environments.

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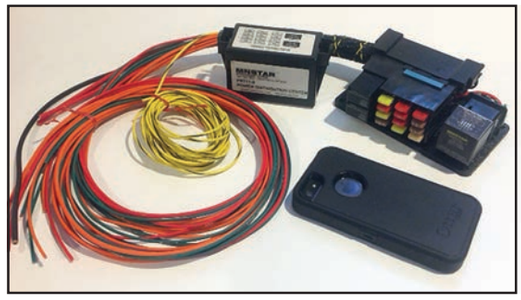

↑ PRT11-VM Protector Fuse Panel

The **PRT11-VM**, from MNSTAR Technologies, Inc., combines battery hot, ignition and time delayed circuits into one compact panel. The fuse panel includes three battery hot outputs for a combined 40 amps; four timed outputs for a combined 50 amps; and four ignition hot outputs for a combined 40 amps.

With the footprint about the size of an iPhone®, the **PRT11-VM** is ideal for computer, digital video and IT equipment installations and can be used to augment a prep package or to support in-service installations.

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← New Amplifier System

Code 3®, Inc. recently introduced a new amplifier system which significantly changes how warning sounds are utilized in emergency response. The **Banshee**™ amplifier system offers a selection of tones, features and options which have never been available in one siren amp system before: three low frequency tones, multiple dual tones and the truest sounding electronic air horn on the market. It also has additional built-in tones created for specific emergency and warning situations. The **Banshee** works with virtually any siren system already on the market and retrofits to any emergency vehicle already on the road.

Circle 3009 for More Information

New Docking System for the Apple® iPad® 4 and Air

The **Havis Docking System for the Apple iPad 4 and iPad Air** brings you the best computing solution for your needs. Designed with versatility in mind, Havis mounting options allow for tablet docking and usage in any work environment.

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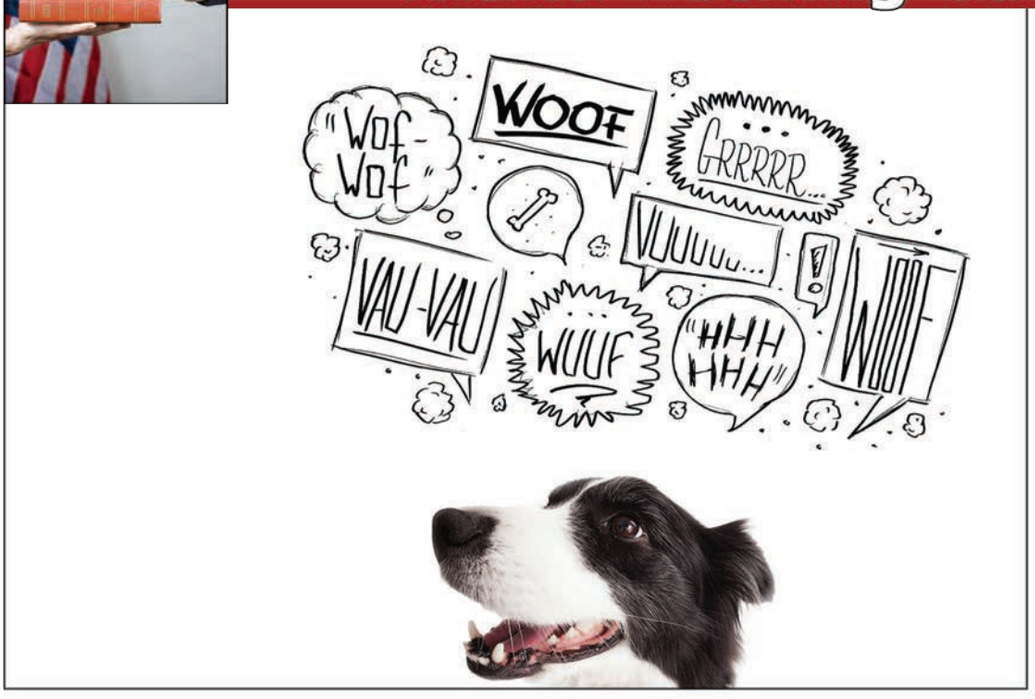

Ramesh Nyberg

A TALE OF TWO CITIES

It looks like someone may be barking up the wrong tree.

I've been teaching my students about the difference between the public sector and the private sector. You know – what types of obligations and accountability to the citizens the public sector has and what types of perceptions the public has with private sector entities, such as security guards (aka "mall cops"), and what "authority" really means.

Most of them are just freshmen and sophomores, but, one day, they will step out into the adult world, start paying taxes, start voting and then – hopefully – they'll start saying, "Hey, why are they asking me to pay for this?" or "Wait a minute – what is that guy doing as our city manager?" They're in for quite a ride, aren't they, as citizens of their municipality/county, their state and their country? All of that layering of government and all of that regulation – it's a real education, for those who pay attention. I taught them that regulation is fine, for the most part. We need government scrutiny on certain industries to protect us from fraud and abuse. My home state of Florida always seems to bear the title of "Fraud Capital of the Country." Why is that? Whatever the case, the Sunshine State always seems to hold a lofty spot on the dubious totem pole of infamy.

I've got some good news to report, though. Recently, a local municipal government here made what I thought was a sound, reasonable decision on a pretty big issue. I'll talk about that later because I want to give you the negative story first. This downer story needs to come first because it's not as near of a significant story as the positive one – it's from a small municipality and it focuses on an ordinance which may not even pass. The fact that it is even being proposed, however, is downright scary – at least for the residents of the Village of Palmetto Bay. This municipality of roughly 15,000 residents lies about 15 miles south of Miami. It's a beautiful community. I know; I used to live there. It has lots of parks, shaded neighborhoods with stately homes and thriving businesses along U.S. 1. The mayor of Palmetto Bay came up with a new ordinance. Apparently, Madame Mayor (who shall remain unnamed only because her last name is tough to spell and I don't think she's a prominent enough person to look it up) has received some pretty strong complaints about barking dogs. I'm not sure if her proposal came about as a result of multiple complaints or one persistent complaint from someone who might be her close buddy. Regardless, here it is: If your dog barks more than five times in the space of one hour, you are subject to a $1000 fine. The complainant must sign an affidavit that they heard the dog bark on these five occasions and report it to the Village.

I wish I were making this up.

I'm guessing that the mayor's city attorneys are very busy writing up the fine points of the ordinance. After all, it is fraught with problems, if not outright hilarity. If I were a defendant in such a case, I think my first question would be, "How do you know for sure that this was *my* dog?" Short of sticking a camera over the fence and providing video evidence of the barking, I guess we would have to take the complainant's word. Secondly, how did you time these barks? Did you use a watch or your microwave timer as you were defrosting tonight's dinner? Is that time accurate? I mean, if the four "arfs" were heard in 60 minutes and the critical fifth "arf" happened ten seconds after that interval, you have no case, and that's *if* your bark meter has been properly calibrated.

Which brings us to the bark itself. What constitutes a "bark"? What if it is one of those closed muzzle "woofs" which some dogs do, as kind of a prebark warning when they hear or sense something which doesn't constitute all-out red flag warning barking. You know what I mean? They kind of come out like "burf" often followed by a growl which really cannot be called a bark at all. So, what if we have two "burfs" and three "arfs"? Sometimes, there's that double bark: Arf Arf! How is that calculated? If you call it two barks, I might counter that my dog has a hair trigger on his vocal chords and it's really one. WHO decides what a bark is and what particular canine committed it?

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moving back into Palmetto Bay and getting a really smart, really brilliant dog who I can train to bark four times only within a given hour. What happens if my dog does that over and over? Will they write a second ordinance, charging only $800 dollars, based on $200 per illegal "arf"? An immense irony should be noted here: Palmetto Bay is a community where peacocks stroll at large in numbers in the eastern parts of the Village. They are protected by the county and no one "owns" them. They caw and screech (they are *very* loud) with impunity.

That's enough about Palmetto Bay. The crime situation is obviously very much under control there. The City of Miami is a much larger jurisdiction, responsible for the care of about 400,000 residents. It is the largest municipality in our county which is a jumble of 36 (yes, 36) separate government jurisdictions. Every year, young people flock in huge numbers to the immensely popular Ultra Music Festival. There, they revel in worship of their favorite DJs and house music, paying up to $500 for access to all three jubilant days and nights at Miami's Bayfront Park. It's a big moneymaker. Every year, there are the predictable smattering of fights, drug arrests and traffic problems. This year, there was chaos when a throng of concertgoers rushed a fence and broke through, trampling a female security guard so severely that she has suffered serious brain injuries. At the time of this writing, she is still in critical condition.

There is a contingent of citizens and City of Miami politicians who now want Ultra to find another home. However, the City (which is famous for throwing the baby out with the bathwater) voted instead to increase security measures, build a stronger fence and beef up police presence in and around the perimeter of the festival. Give Ultra another chance to prove itself before we send it packing to some other city which might be better equipped and make all the money we could have made.

I don't live in the City of Miami and my kids aren't going to Ultra, so I really don't care. I am encouraged, though, that local government can every so often make calm, reasonable decisions which might serve everyone well (city police officers are licking their chops at the extra overtime positions).

So, to the City of Miami, bravo, or, at least, we'll see how it works out next year. Palmetto Bay's mayor, however, should either get points for comedy skills or a whack on the nose with a rolled up newspaper. *No! Baaaaad mayor!*

About the Author: Ramesh Nyberg retired from law enforcement in November 2006. He spent 27 years in police work in South Florida, 22 of those years in homicide as an investigator. He has taught homicide investigations and interview/interrogations at the local police academy. He now teaches criminal justice classes at a high school in the Miami area. His students frequently read the copies of Police and Security News *he brings to the classroom. Mr. Nyberg enjoys hearing from readers and he may be contacted at ramesh.nyberg@ gmail.com.*

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Michael Carpenter

HANDLING STRESS

Everyone knows a career in law enforcement is stressful. But, stress does not necessarily have to be harmful to you. It's all in how you handle it.

Let me ask you a couple of questions. You may already know the answer to the first three, but you may not have a good answer for the last one:

- Is a career in law enforcement stressful?
- Are you looking forward to a long and healthy second career or retirement?
- Did you know that, according to several research studies, the average age a police office dies is around 60 years old?
- What are you doing NOW to deal with the stress which you know is present in your job and you know could adversely affect your future and your family's future?

Some research studies have shown that police officers in the United States have a life expectancy between 53 and 66 years (depending on what research study you read), while a "normal" life expectancy is 78 for a male and 81 years old for a female.

In addition, of course, there are other "bad news" medical factors related to a career in policing. Forty percent of police officers have a sleep disorder; a 270% higher risk of emotional burnout; an 80% higher risk of cardiovascular disease; and a 61% higher risk of diabetes. Eighty percent of officers surveyed in one study reported by the FBI are overweight and 33% are obese. Heart disease costs officers and agencies around $180 billion dollars; cancer costs are around $150 billion; and diabetes costs are around $100 billion.[1] Some of you know that these statistics come very close to home. Some of you have friends or coworkers who have serious medical conditions or who have died way too early in their life.

So, you know what the job can do to you (and your family). Many of these medical issues can be traced directly to the stress you face every day, every year, for the rest of your career.

The demands of police work, by its very nature, leads to mental and physical tension. Yet, some police officers seem to thrive on such stress, while others suffer from burnout or other more serious mental or physical problems. Understanding why some officers suffer, while others thrive, could be the key to your long-term survival in your present and future positions.

To help you in your career, here are a few things successful police officers can do to minimize their stress and its consequences. Follow their actions to be sure that you keep your stress level to a minimum.

Take Care of Yourself

The studies and literature are clear regarding what you need to do to effectively handle the inevitable stress of your work. To be successful, you must incorporate certain stress reducing activities into your hectic life. If you don't, stress will take its toll in the long run.

We have all seen the results of NOT processing stress positively – alcohol, drugs, divorce, suicide, domestic violence, overeating, etc. You MUST take positive steps to deal with the stressors of your job. I'll give you a few to think about. These will seem like page one from a high school health book, but...eat healthy, well-balanced meals; get adequate rest; avoid overindulging in alcohol, food or any other substance which adversely affects your body; take regular vacations to get away from your work (how about a long weekend with the spouse – with or without the kids – every other month); and (VERY IMPORTANT) regular exercise. Regular exercise is a must – not only because it tends to reduce stress and tension, but because being physically fit can add to your sense of well-being, safety and confidence.

And, of course, balancing your life (family health, personal health, mental health, spiritual health) to include work, family, friends and your personal time is critical to a happy and minimally stressful lifestyle.

Maintain a Positive Attitude

Optimists see the positive aspects of the world, while pessimists tend to look at the negative aspects of the world. I firmly believe that optimists make the best police officers. Because they are always "up," their positive attitudes are contagious and can spread to peers, subordinates and even their superiors. Both positive and negative energy (or attitude) is contagious. No one wants to be around a whiner.

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Having a positive attitude in general makes it much easier to handle unexpected problems. When they occur, good police officers just view them as a minor obstacle or a challenge or, sometimes, even an opportunity on their road to success. They handle them quickly and positively and move on. These officers gain confidence (positive energy) when they deal with a challenge and they focus on their victories, while other negative energy officers only remember their mistakes or their failures or continually complain about how bad their job is. You probably know too many of the latter.

Don't Expect Too Much

One of the reasons successful police officers or commanders are successful is usually because they are very competent in their position. Usually, successful people in any career perform better than their peers in both quality and quantity of work.

Successful police officers set high standards for themselves and, when promoted, set high standards for their subordinates. If this sounds like you, remember that not everyone has the drive, ability or level of commitment to his (or her) career you have. Remember the bell-shaped curve from school? In any class, there are a few "A's"; a few more "B's"; most of the class is average and will get "C's"; some will get "D's"; and a few will get "F's." Well, there is a bell-shaped curve of employees, too. Think about the people with whom you work – there are a few "A" employees; a couple of "B's"; most of the people you work with are "C's"; some are less than average ("D's"); and some who should have been fired long ago, the "F's."

How does this relate to you? Well, if you're an "A" employee (regardless of rank or title), realize that not everyone with whom you work chooses to be an "A" employee. They can't, won't or just decide not to for many reasons. They choose to perform at a level which works for them. Whether these people are your coworkers or your subordinates, you cannot apply your work ethic to them. You cannot force them to raise their level of performance. Setting your expectations at too high a level will increase everyone's stress levels – especially yours. Unless their performance impacts your performance, then you have to let it go. My son, who works in a (high stress) law enforcement job, has a favorite saying which might apply here: "That's a 'them' problem; not a 'me' problem."

Be Technically Proficient

Marginally trained police officers and supervisors suffer from a variety of stresses. Because of their lack of knowledge about their jobs, they aren't sure what to do; they worry about decisions they do make; and they often incur the wrath of their superiors for making wrong decisions.

Well trained and competent police officers know what to do, when to do it and they get it done. Then, they move on to other challenges – confident that they have done the right thing. Their peers, superiors and subordinates alike tend to trust them, support them and respect them and that alone is a stress reducer.

Maintain Your Sense of Balance and Sense of Humor

Police work, at any level, can be serious business. However, it isn't serious all of the time. There is plenty of room in the day for a less intense environment to exist in the workplace.

Although humor must be used carefully in today's workplace, it can be used to keep a situation in perspective, as well as allowing everyone to have a little "fun" at work.

Many officers and commanders find that a bit of appropriate humor at the right time can dramatically reduce the stress and tension of a difficult situation for both themselves and the others involved in the situation.

Don't Be a Source of Stress

Many police officers and commanders fail to realize that their actions can be serious sources of stress for other people – their family, complainants, their coworkers or the people they deal with on a day-to-day basis. Just as humor and positive attitudes can be infectious in the workplace, so can stressors.

Pay particular attention to the affect of stress on your family. One research study focusing on police spouses found that they observed some significant changes in their spouses: negative attitude about people; they are less willing to socialize; they are more rigid and authoritarian and more critical of the spouse and children; have less control of their temper; etc., etc., etc. This is not good for the officer, the spouse or the children. (And, to all of you who are reading this and are saying, "I'm good. My family is good. None of that stuff affects me," be careful and be realistic. I'm betting that the job has adversely affected your family more than you want to admit and more than you may ever know.)

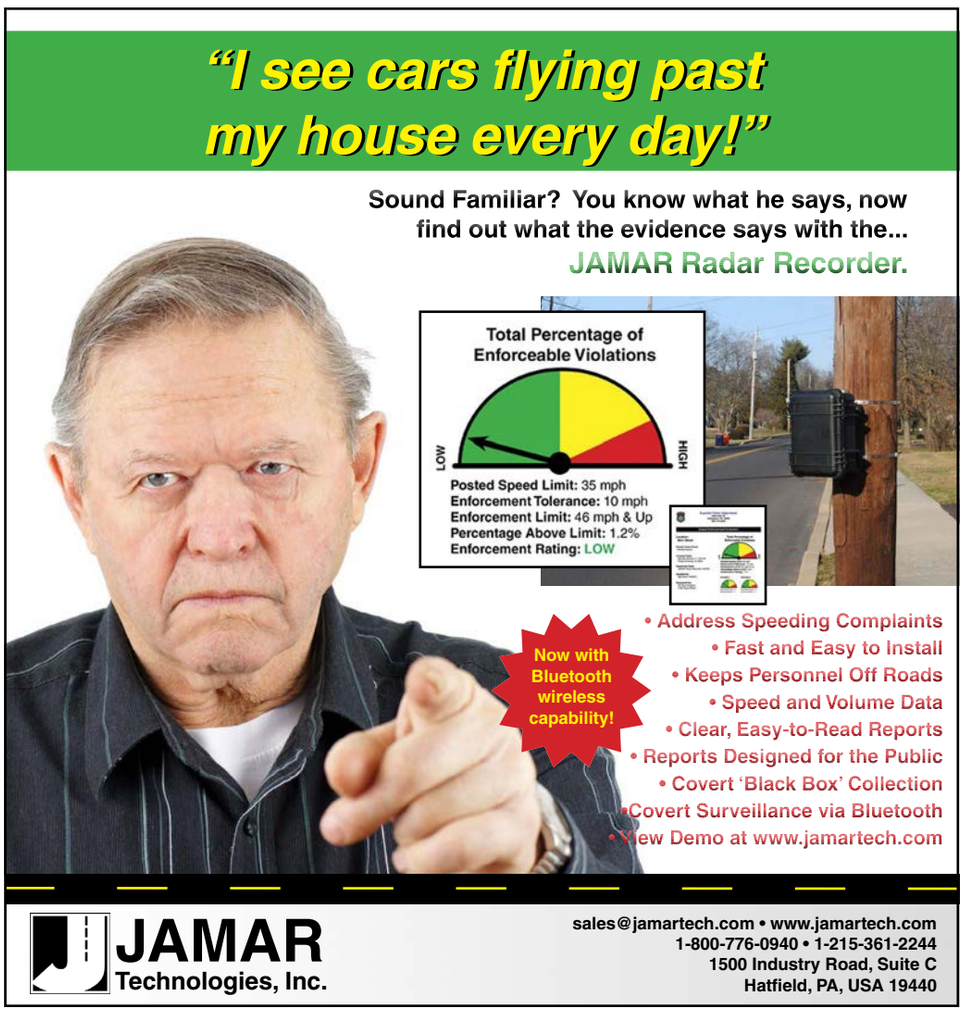
Find a Release

We all know that pressure builds up – whether it is in a steam engine or a teakettle or in the human body. I am sure that all of you have experienced the results of NOT releasing stress – heart disease, ulcers, digestive disorders, insomnia, migraine headaches (that was my "specialty") and other such issues.

You can't keep it inside. You must find a release. There are healthy ways to relieve stress and not so healthy ways to relieve stress. For your sake, and the sake of your family, friends and coworkers, take some positive steps to release your stress.

Get away from the job – physically and emotionally – and find something which will take your mind off the job and take you to a "happy place." There are dozens of ways to do this. Some officers I knew found that exercise was a great release (one hour after work every day). One officer got involved in bird-watching, another started painting landscape scenes, another took up photography, and another retreated to his basement and spent many happy hours turning a woodworking hobby into a nice second income business. Please find a positive way of releasing stress!

Following some of these suggestions may help you take positive steps to help yourself and your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loved ones. If you need more than these steps, please see a professional who can give you more specific guidelines and guidance.

About the Author: Mike Carpenter has been on the police side of criminal justice for more than 25 years. He started out as a city cop and then went to a state police agency (trooper, detective and patrol sergeant). After that, he worked for the New York State Police Division of Criminal Justice as a police training specialist.

Currently, he teaches criminal justice courses at a college in upstate New York. He has two master's degrees; has been a certified police trainer for more than 20 years; has written numerous articles; and operates a police management consulting business (www.policemanagement.com).

[1] FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin, May 2005

Google Glass: A Fit for NYPD?

NEWS

The New York City Police Department (NYPD) is looking at whether Google Glass will have value in investigations. "As part of an ongoing interest in the advancements in the field of technology, the NYPD regularly conducts reviews of various equipment, devices, programs and other consumer products for their potential application or utility in the area of policing," Deputy Commissioner Stephen Davis said in a statement reported by CNN.

Glass is a lightweight, wearable technology which can be customized with different shades, frames and earbuds. Many of the capabilities of a smartphone or laptop are available via Glass. It has a 5MP camera and 720p video capability. Its resolution display is the equivalent of a 25 inch high-definition screen from eight feet away.

The technology initially was only available through Google's Glass Explorer Program which allows organizations or individuals to test the glasses for $1,500.00, and went on sale publicly for one day in April.

To view a copy of CNN's report, visit **www.cnn.com/2014/02/08/us/nypd-google-glass/**.

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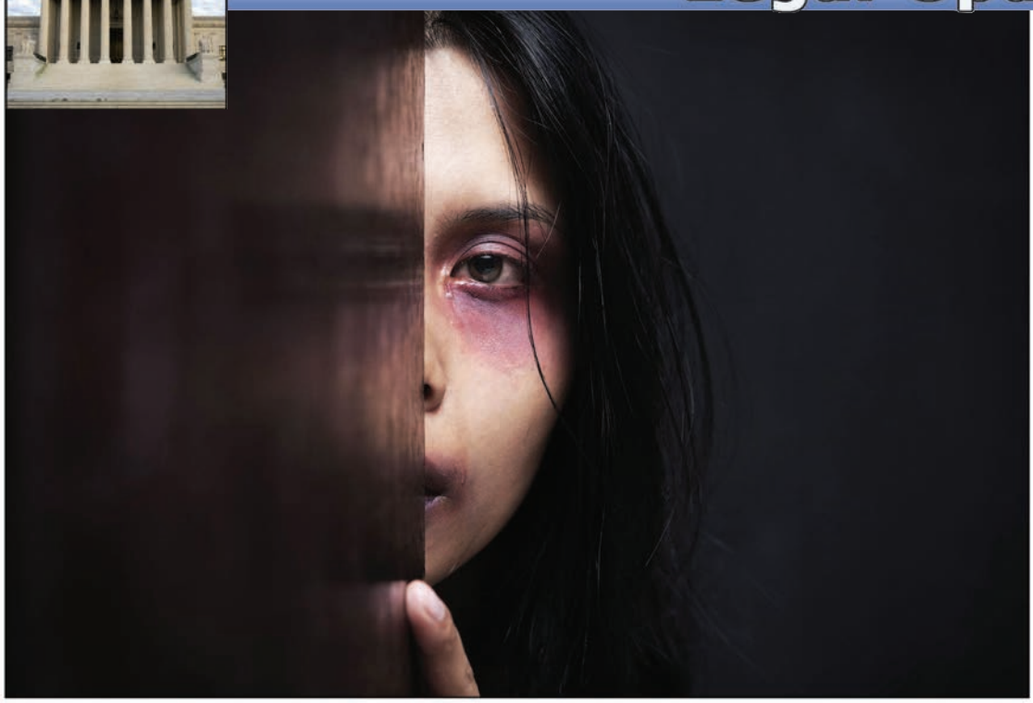

Larry E. Holtz, Esq.

SEARCHING JOINTLY OCCUPIED PREMISES

Consent provided by an abused woman is valid, even after her abusing male partner, who objected to the search, is arrested and removed from the home.

Case law firmly establishes that police officials may search jointly occupied premises if one of the occupants consents. In *Georgia v. Randolph*, 547 *U.S.* 103, 126 *S.Ct.* 1515 (2006), however, the United States Supreme Court created a narrow exception to this rule, holding that the consent of one occupant is ineffective when another occupant is *present* and objects to the search.

Recently, in *Fernandez v. California* (U.S. 2014), the Court clarified that the ruling in *Randolph* does not apply if the objecting occupant is absent when another occupant consents. In this regard, the Court ruled that *Georgia v. Randolph* is "limited to situations in which the objecting occupant is *physically present*." It does not apply "to the very different situation in this case, where consent was provided by an abused woman well after her male partner had been removed from the apartment they shared."

The Case: Defendant Walter Fernandez and four other men violently attacked and robbed Abel Lopez near a check cashing establishment in Los Angeles. They made away with Lopez's cell phone and his wallet which contained $400 in cash.

When the call came into police dispatch, there was mention of the possibility of "Drifters" gang involvement and two Los Angeles police officers drove to an alley frequented by gang members. Upon their arrival, the officers were approached by a man who said, "The guy is in the apartment." The officers "then observed a man run through the alley and into the building to which the man was pointing. A minute or two later, the officers heard sounds of screaming and fighting coming from that building."

"After backup arrived, the officers knocked on the door of the apartment unit from which the screams had been heard. Roxanne Rojas answered the door. She was holding a baby and appeared to be crying. Her face was red and she had a large bump on her nose. The officers also saw blood on her shirt and hand from what appeared to be a fresh injury. Rojas told the police that she had been in a fight." When asked if anyone else was in the apartment, Rojas said that her four-year-old son was the only other person present.

After an officer asked Rojas to step out of the apartment so that he could conduct a protective sweep, the defendant appeared at the door wearing only boxer shorts. He stepped forward and said, "You don't have any right to come in here. I know my rights." Suspecting that the defendant had assaulted Rojas, "the officers removed him from the apartment and then placed him under arrest. Lopez identified [the defendant] as his initial attacker, and [the defendant] was taken to the police station for booking."

About one hour after the defendant's arrest, a police detective returned to the apartment and requested and received both oral and written consent from Rojas to search the premises. "In the apartment, the police found Drifters gang paraphernalia, a butterfly knife, clothing worn by the robbery suspect, and ammunition. Rojas' young son also showed the officers where [the defendant] had hidden a sawed-off shotgun."

The Law: Finding the search lawful and the evidence admissible, the Court addressed the consent principle of "common authority" and the reach of *Georgia v. Randolph*.

"While it is clear that a warrantless search is reasonable when the sole occupant of a house or apartment consents, what happens when there are two or more occupants? Must they all consent? Must they all be asked? Is consent by one occupant enough? The Court faced that problem 40 years ago in *United States v. Matlock*, 94 *S.Ct.* 988 (1974)."

"In that case, Matlock and a woman named Graff were living together in a house which was also occupied by several of Graff's siblings and by her mother, who had rented the house. While in the front yard of the house, Matlock was arrested for bank robbery and was placed in a squad car. Although the police could have easily asked him for consent to search the room that he and Graff shared, they did not do so. Instead, they knocked on the door and obtained Graff's permission to search. The search yielded incriminating evidence, which the defendant sought to suppress, but the Court held that Graff's consent justified the warrantless search. As the Court put it, 'the consent of one who possesses *common authority* over premises or effects is valid as against the absent, nonconsenting person with whom that authority is shared.' "

"In *Illinois v. Rodriguez*, 110 *S.Ct.* 2793 (1990), the Court reaffirmed and extended the *Matlock* holding. In *Rodriguez*, a woman named Fischer told police officers that she had been assaulted by Rodriguez in what she termed "our" apartment. She also informed the officers that Rodriguez was asleep in the apartment and she then accompanied the officers to that unit. When they arrived, the officers could have knocked on the door and awakened Rodriguez and, had they done so, Rodriguez might well have surrendered at the door and objected to the officers' entry. Instead, Fischer unlocked the door, the officers entered without a warrant, and they saw drug paraphernalia and containers filled with white powder in plain view."

"After the search, the police learned that Fischer no longer resided at the apartment, and this Court held that she did not have common authority over the premises at the time in question. The Court nevertheless held that the warrantless entry was

lawful because the police reasonably believed that Fischer was a resident."

While consent by one resident of jointly occupied premises is generally sufficient to justify a warrantless search, the Court recognized a narrow exception to this rule in *Georgia v. Randolph*, *supra*. "In that case, police officers responded to the Randolphs' home after receiving a report of a domestic dispute. When the officers arrived, Janet Randolph informed the officers that her estranged husband, Scott Randolph, was a cocaine user and that there were 'items of drug evidence' in the house. * * * The officers first asked Scott for consent to search, but he 'unequivocally refused.' The officers then turned to Janet and she consented to the search which produced evidence that was later used to convict Scott for possession of cocaine."

The Court held that "Janet Randolph's consent was insufficient under the circumstances to justify the warrantless search. The Court reiterated the proposition that a person who shares a residence with others assumes the risk that "any one of them may admit visitors, with the consequence that a guest obnoxious to one may nevertheless be admitted in his absence by another." But, the Court held that "*a physically present inhabitant's* express refusal of consent to a police search [of his home] is dispositive as to him, regardless of the consent of a fellow occupant." In this regard, the Court's opinion emphasized that "its holding was limited to situations in which the objecting occupant is present."

In this case, even though the defendant was not present when Rojas consented, he argued that "his absence should not matter since he was absent only because the police had taken him away." In addition, the defendant argued that "it was sufficient that he objected to the search while he was still present. Such an objection, he argued, should remain in effect until the objecting party 'no longer wishes to keep the police out of his home.' " The Court rejected both arguments.

The Court addressed first the argument that the presence of the objecting occupant is not necessary when the police are responsible for his absence. In *Randolph*, the Court suggested that consent by one occupant might not be sufficient if "there is evidence that the police have removed the potentially objecting tenant from the entrance for the sake of avoiding a possible objection." This statement, however, is "best understood not to require an inquiry into the subjective intent of officers who detain or arrest a potential objector, but instead to refer to situations in which the removal of the potential objector is not objectively reasonable."

The Court held, therefore, that "an occupant who is absent due to a lawful detention or arrest stands in the same shoes as an occupant who is absent for any other reason." This ruling emphasizes that *Georgia v. Randolph* "unequivocally requires the presence of the objecting occupant in every situation other than the one mentioned above."

The Court then went on to reject the defendant's second argument "that his objection, made at the threshold of the premises that the police wanted to search, remained effective until he changed his mind and withdrew his objection."

First, with respect to "widely shared social expectations," when an "objecting occupant is standing at the threshold saying 'Stay out,' a friend or visitor invited to enter by another occupant can expect, at best, an uncomfortable scene and, at worst, violence if he [or she] tries to brush past the objector. But, when the objector is not on the scene (and especially when it is known that the objector will not return during the course of the visit), the

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friend or visitor is much more likely to accept the invitation to enter. Thus, the defendant's argument is inconsistent with *Randolph*'s reasoning."

Second, the defendant's argument "would create the very sort of practical complications that *Randolph* sought to avoid." First, "there is the question of duration." According to the Court, any holding that an objection lasts for a "reasonable time" would be unworkable. "What interval of time would be reasonable in this context? A week? A month? A year? Ten years?"

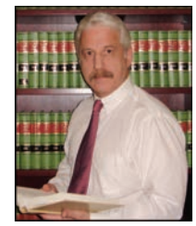
"Another problem concerns the procedure needed to register a continuing objection. Would it be necessary for an occupant to object while police officers are at the door? * * * Could an objection be made preemptively? Could a person * * * register an objection in advance? Could this be done by posting a sign in front of the house? Could a standing objection be registered by serving notice on the chief of police?"

"If *Randolph* is taken at its word – that it applies only when the objector is standing in the door saying 'Stay out' when officers propose to make a consent search – all of these problems disappear."

Randolph exception aside, "the lawful occupant of a house or apartment should have the right to invite the police to enter the dwelling and conduct a search. Any other rule would trample on the rights of the occupant who is willing to consent. Such an occupant may want the police to search in order to dispel 'suspicion raised by sharing quarters with a criminal.' And an occupant may want the police to conduct a thorough search so that any dangerous contraband can be found and removed. In this case, for example, the search resulted in the discovery and removal of a sawed-off shotgun to which Rojas' four-year-old son had access."

"Denying someone in Rojas' position the right to allow the police to enter her home would also show disrespect for her independence. Having beaten Rojas, [the defendant] would bar her from controlling access to her own home until such time as he chose to relent. The Fourth Amendment does not give him that power." P&SN

About the Author: Larry E. Holtz is the C.E.O. and Executive Director of Police Training for Holtz Learning Centers, Ltd. He has served as a Detective Sergeant with the Atlantic City, New Jersey, Police Department; a Deputy Attorney General for the state of New Jersey; and an Assistant County Prosecutor. Mr. Holtz is a certified police trainer and teaches on a regular basis in police training academies in New Jersey and Pennsylvania.



He is a member of the bar in New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and the District of Columbia, and is admitted to practice before the federal bar in the District of New Jersey and the Third Circuit.

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THE WALTHER PPQ M2 TARGET PISTOL

A long-slide version of the PPQ M2

In April 2013, I reviewed the Walther PPQ M2® (Police Pistol Quick Defense), manufactured by world famous arms maker Walther Gmbh of Germany. I found it to be excellent, without flaws in performance or workmanship. In my short time with the pistol, nothing about it jumped out as needing any improvement. My four associates who shot it also agreed with my observations, adding that its trigger pull was the best they had felt on a striker-fired handgun.

An Extra Inch

This new version of the PPQ M2 is the PPQ M2 Target, differing in that it has a five inch barrel, not the four inch one of the original pistol, with a slightly different slide to match (more on this ahead). The remainder of the pistol is a duplicate from front sight to base plate. It is available chambered in 9x19mm or .40S&W.

Both the PPQ M2 and the PPQ M2 Target (hereafter referred to as PPQ M2 T) are derived from the still in production and also polymer framed Walther P99® pistol. The PPQ M2 T is a striker-fired, single-action pistol. Its striker is fully cocked when the slide is retracted to chamber a round. Walther chose to describe this action as providing "constant trigger pull."

The front sight is held with a screw and is removable. The oval openings lighten the weight of the slide.

As with the PPQ M2, I was quite taken by the smooth, crisp trigger pull and its short trigger reset. Walther's Web site addresses this feature with a bit of understatement: "(the fully cocked striker)...make(s) it very easy to shoot accurately." I would add "and very quickly," as its trigger movement forward after releasing the striker is all of .04 inches and, until recently, this was uncommon to find in the trigger actions of a polymer and steel pistol. Using a Chatillon trigger pull gauge, this sample's trigger pull weight measured a shade over five pounds, close to the Walther specifications of 5.6 pounds. This sample is chambered for 9x19mm and has a 15 round magazine capacity. (An extended 17 round magazine is available for purchase from Walther USA.)

Ted Murphy shooting some excellent groups.

Feels Good

The PPQ M2 T, for me, is a comfortable pistol to hold, manipulate and shoot. I find the longer top end slightly shifts the pistol's balance point forward. The sides are curved, not flat, with their upper end tapering inward toward the top end which is also slightly curved. The side curving also tapers inward at its juncture with the frame. There are diagonal, forward leaning grasping grooves front and rear.

The top of the slide is also curved and has six oval openings, three to a side, between the muzzle and the ejection port. The sights are steel and feature a three white dot system. The front sight is slightly ramped and its rear face is serrated. For elevation change, the sight can be replaced with another sight of differing height (an optional accessory purchase). Horizontal changes are made on the rear sight by using the click adjustable, slotted, right side mounted screw in its base.

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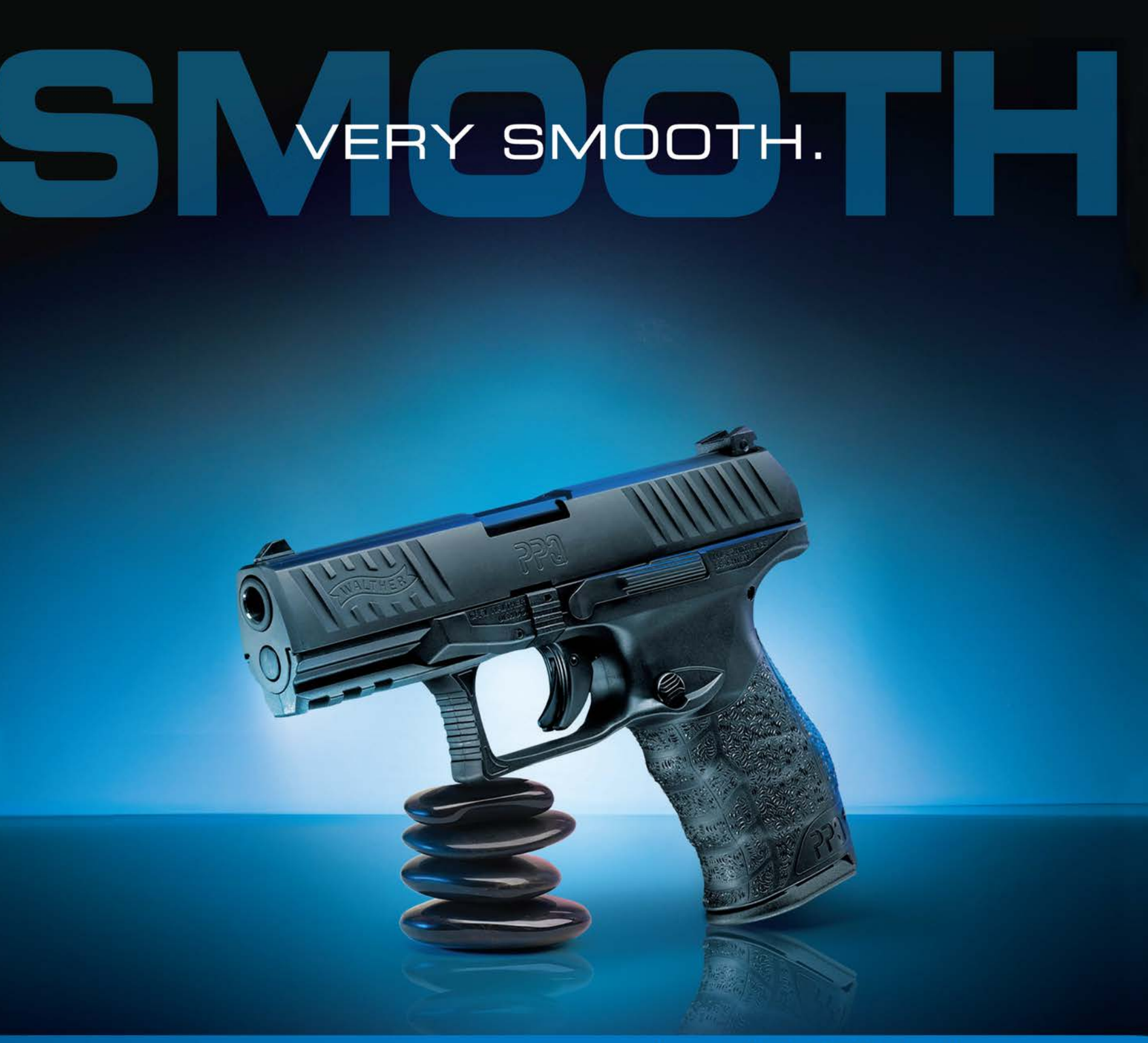

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The rear sight, with white dots for quick sighting, is windage adjustable. When the rear of the extractor is depressed, a red rectangle is exposed. Both serve as loaded chamber indicators.

The top of the slide is longitudinally grooved between the front and rear sight. Forward leaning and widely spaced grasping grooves are front and rear on the slide. The wide spacing helps keep the usually narrow grooves from abrading clothing and holster or collecting debris. A spring-loaded and beefy extractor is located at the center right rear of the large ejection port. When the chamber is loaded, the rear of the extractor is depressed into the slide, exposing a red rectangle. These, then, give visual or tactile notice of the chamber's status.

Inside

Internally, the slide contains the barrel and recoil spring. The recoil spring is captive on its polymer guide rod. The spring and front end cap of the guide rod are colored red and the rear end cap is colored blue. A passive firing pin safety is just to the rear of the breech face. The cartridge pickup rail is stepped, with a narrow rail on the top right side of its larger body. Its thinner portion is beveled on its top and outboard areas. I believe that this is done to help prevent the rail tip from striking the primer when removing a live round. This is a small feature, but it does prevent a not uncommon, self-induced injury, as many shooters cup one hand near the ejection port to catch the round when unloading the pistol.

The head of the reversible magazine catch is horizontally grooved and is located at the left rear of the trigger guard. It is partially protected from accidental depression by a molded ridge extending rearward and beneath the catch on both sides of the frame. There are concavities on the top sides of the gripping area which serve as guides for trigger finger placement on the trigger or as a thumb rest. Three shallow finger grooves are on the front strap.

Backstraps

Much of the overall gripping area is given a treatment of half circle ridges and raised dots to give a solid, but still not "grabby" or sharp to the touch feel. These are carried over to the surface of the three changeable backstraps. These easy to change backstraps are sized small, medium and large, with the medium size preinstalled. To change from one to another, you simply drive out the roll pin located at the lower rear of the grip.

Three backstraps – sized small, medium and large – are supplied. Note the slot for an RFID or other similar chip.

Hint: Using the correct size pin punch will make the process easier and avoid enlarging the retaining pinhole. A vertical notch is centered in the bottom of the backstrap and part of the retaining pin is exposed so that a lanyard can be attached. This lower rear of the backstrap extends below the base of the frame and magazine well to aid in inserting a magazine quickly.

On changing backstraps, I did so at my workbench, but, at the range, no one cared to check out the different grip sizes. In fact, one of my shooting buddies commented (positively) on how high a grip he was able to take on the "as is" pistol (with a medium size backstrap). Also worth mentioning is

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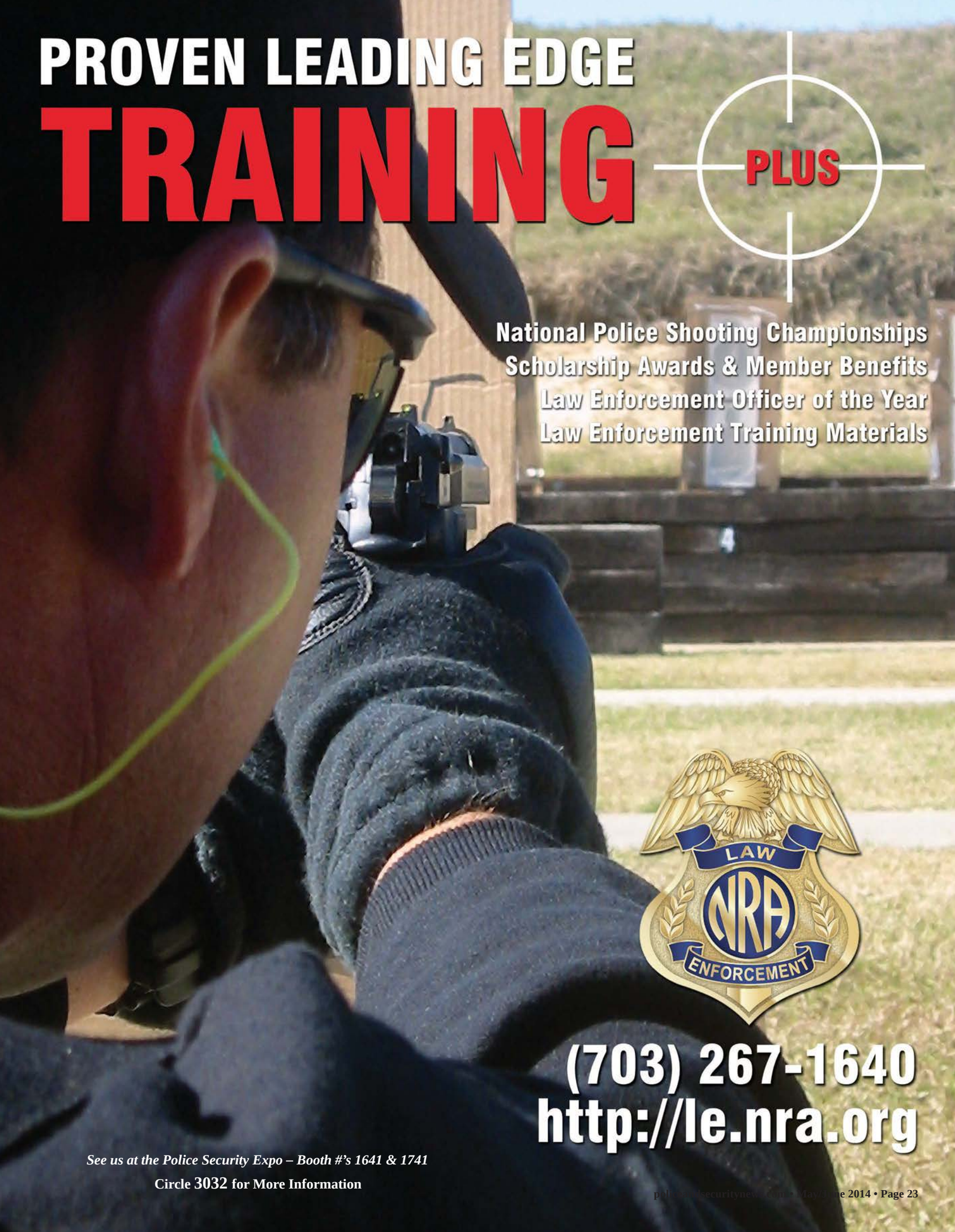

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that the large size version extends to the top of the frame. When the backstrap is off, there's an open, raised slot on the frame marked "Transponder" on its left, forward toward the muzzle. The word "Kennung" – translated as "identifier" – appears below the slot. That is certainly forward thinking to be sure for inventory and other such controls of an agency.

The ample sized trigger guard has a vertical, squared off front face which is horizontally grooved for those who favor using the guard with a finger or two of their support hand around this area. The curved and smooth faced trigger has a curved center part which is one of two drop safeties. The other safety, within the slide, prevents the firing pin from snapping forward due to inertia when the gun is dropped on its forward face. This safety is bypassed when the trigger is fully pulled to the rear by a projection on the trigger bar.

The PPQ M2® Target disassembled for cleaning or inspection

Finish

The gun's finish is black over metal, with a black polymer frame. A MIL-STD-1913 (Picatinny) accessory mounting rail is on the dustcover of the frame and I had no difficulty installing a Streamlight® TLR-1 HL gun light.

The long, ambidextrous slide stop lever is grooved for two thirds of its length, including the projecting portion which is normally used to operate the lever. Forward of this is the takedown cross bar (more on this in disassembly). The pistol is serial numbered on the slide, the barrel and at the top rear of the frame. This last number is on the metal body containing the trigger and other parts of the operating system. The number is visible through a window in the frame.

Two metal body 15 round magazines having orange colored polymer followers and black polymer removable base plates are furnished, along with a sturdy magazine loader. Cartridge witness holes numbered "4" to "15" are on the rear wall of the magazine body. As noted earlier, a 15+2 round magazine is available for purchase from Walther USA.

Taking It Apart

Disassembly of the PPQ M2 T follows that of similar – and familiar to many – polymer handguns. After insuring the pistol is empty, dry fire it, then push or pull down the ample and grooved takedown latch, holding it down while pushing the slide forward and off the frame rails. Slightly compress the captive recoil spring to remove it, then lift the barrel up and out to the rear. Assemble in reverse order, but take care to correctly align the captive recoil spring, as it must be oriented such that its red colored end cap is facing forward.

In review, this sample PPQ M2 T, as did the previously reviewed PPQ M2, lacks any annoying sharp edges and is simple to operate. Again, for me, the gun just feels good in my hand, as was the case with the PPQ M2, and even more so now, as the new version feels a bit more muzzle heavy.

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Circle 3035 for More Information

Ted's off hand group (bottom) – shot using one hand and standing – measured 1.5". I produced the 1.75" group (top), seated and resting on the shooting bench.

At the Range

Ted Murphy, who helped me with the range work, started off with 147-grain FPMC COR®BON Performance Match ammo. His best group was shot standing and one-handed, putting five shots in 1.25". I shot 115-grain Remington® FMJ and Hornady 124-grain JHP/XTP. My best was 1.75" with the Hornady ammo. By the way, the PPQ M2 T is rated for +P, but not +P+ loads.

In short, when using the PPQ M2 Target model pistol,

WALTHER PPQ M2® TARGET
Technical Specifications

Firearm type: Single-action • **Caliber:** 9x9mm
Magazine capacity: 15 rounds • **Barrel length:** five inches
Overall length: 7.1 inches • **Overall height:** 5.3 inches
Width: 1.3 inches
Sights: Front sight fixed; click adjustable "notch" rear with three white dot system
Sight radius: 6.1 inches • **Safeties:** three (automatic)
Weight: 1.5 pounds with magazine; 1.4 pounds without magazine
Frame: Polymer • **Grip circumference:** 5.3 inches with medium backstrap
Features: Picatinny/MIL-STD-1913 rail on dustcover
Operation: Single-action • **Trigger pull:** 5.6 pounds (sample measured 6.0 pounds)
MSRP: $749.00

CHRONOGRAPH AND ACCURACY RESULTS

The following data was obtained using a Pro Chrony® chronograph at 300 feet above sea level with a temperature of 55 degrees. The pistol used was the Walther PPQ M2® Target with a five inch barrel. The five shot groups were fired standing – supported and unsupported – at 15 yards.

Ammunition	Velocity	Standard Deviation
COR®BON Performance Match 147-gr. FPMC	916 fps	13.0
Hornady 124-gr. JHP/XTP	1030 fps	7.5
Remington® UMC 115-gr. FMJ	1059 fps	15.0

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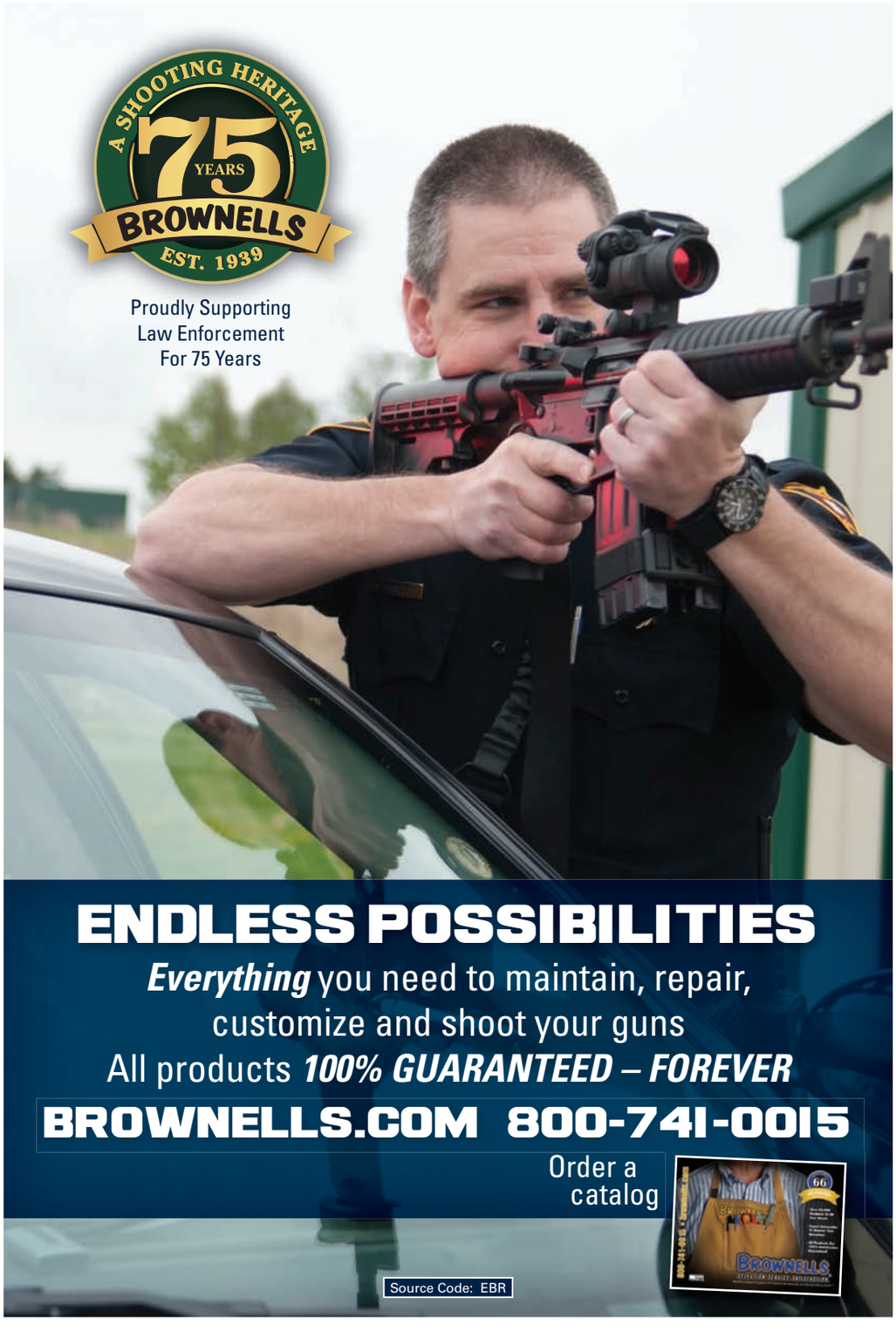
if you're not shooting well, you – not the gun – are the problem. As to the PPQ M2 line, we can all just wait and watch. For the pistols to get legs, law enforcement departments need to adopt them and the action pistol crowd needs to begin running them and running them hard. Between the two, we'll know if there are any "fleas" to be found. As of now, the PPQ M2 pistols are well worth considering for most all handgun applications.

For more information, contact Walther Arms Inc., 7700 Chad Colley Boulevard, Fort Smith, AR 72916; phone (479)242-8500; or visit the Web site at **www.waltherarms.com**.

Circle 3038 for More Information

About the Author: Upon receiving his BS degree from Carnegie Tech and completing service as a Special Agent in U.S. Army Intelligence, Walt Rauch was a Special Agent with the U.S. Secret Service and an Investigator with the Warrant Unit, First Judicial District, PA.

Rauch is also a writer and lecturer in the firearms field. He is published regularly in national and international publications.



Circle 3039 for More Information

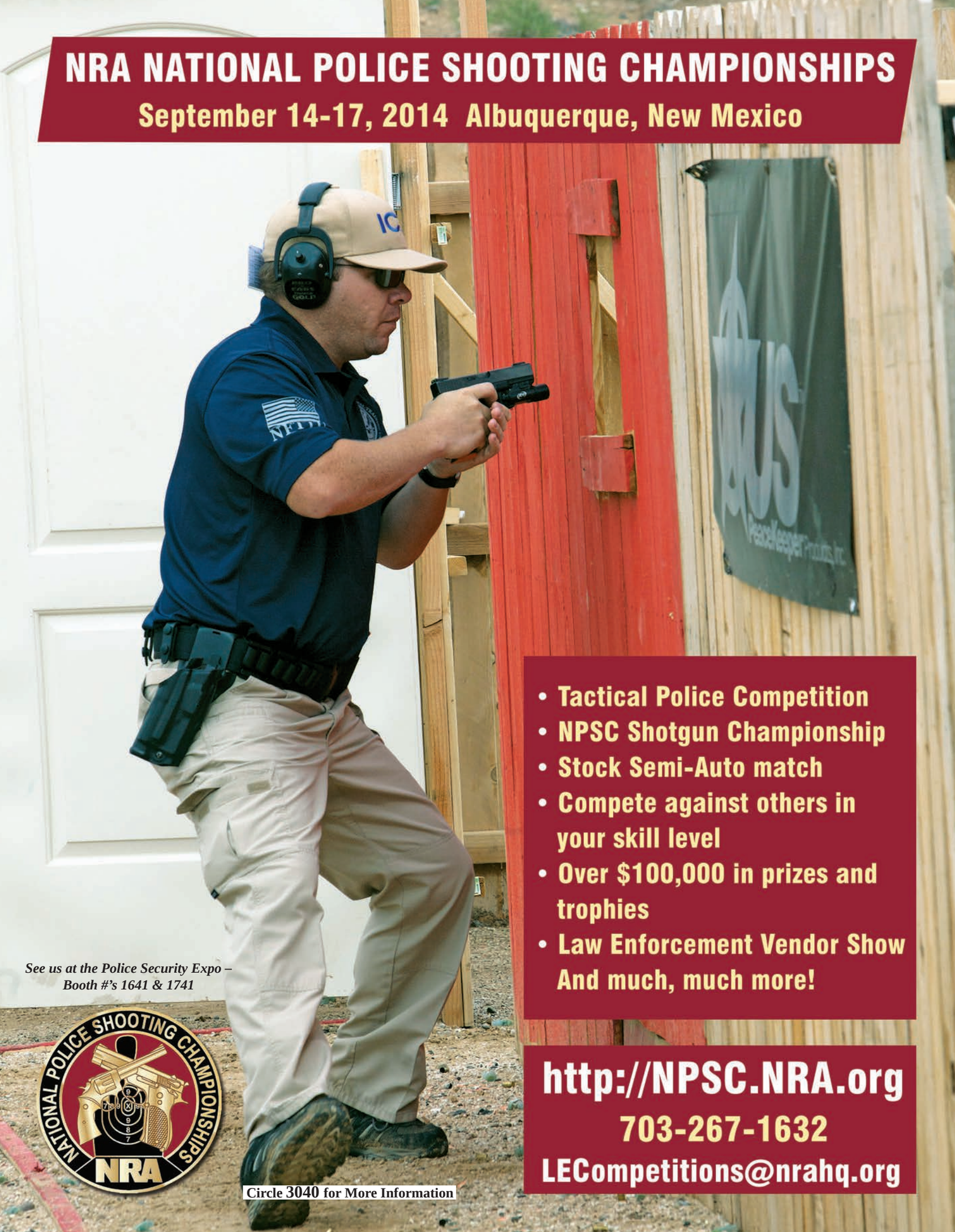
NEWS

Seattle to Use Facial Recognition

A $1.64 million grant from the Department of Homeland Security will fund facial recognition technology for the Seattle Police Department. The Seattle City Council in March approved the police department's use of facial recognition software based on a policy the department created with input from the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) of Washington.

In a blog, Doug Klunder, ACLU-WA Privacy Counsel, wrote, "The ACLU has long been concerned about the use of facial recognition systems and the broad fishing expeditions for which they can be used. That's why the ACLU of Washington worked hard to change the Seattle Police Department's proposed policy for the Booking Photo Comparison Software (BPCS). When we learned of the proposed policy, we objected because it allowed the use of facial recognition software for people who were not suspected of wrongdoing. We asked Seattle to change the proposal and limit the use of BPCS to criminal suspects. ..."

"...Two key aspects of the system and the policy for its use make BPCS different from the vast majority of other proposed and implemented facial recognition systems: The system won't generate any new images and it will only be used to identify people already reasonably suspected of criminal activity."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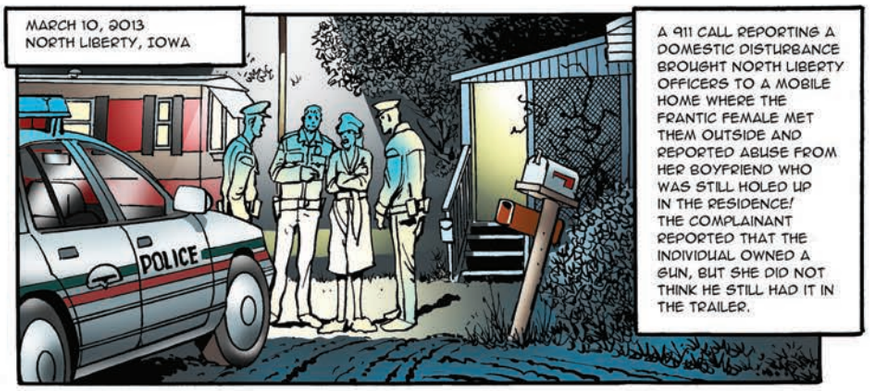
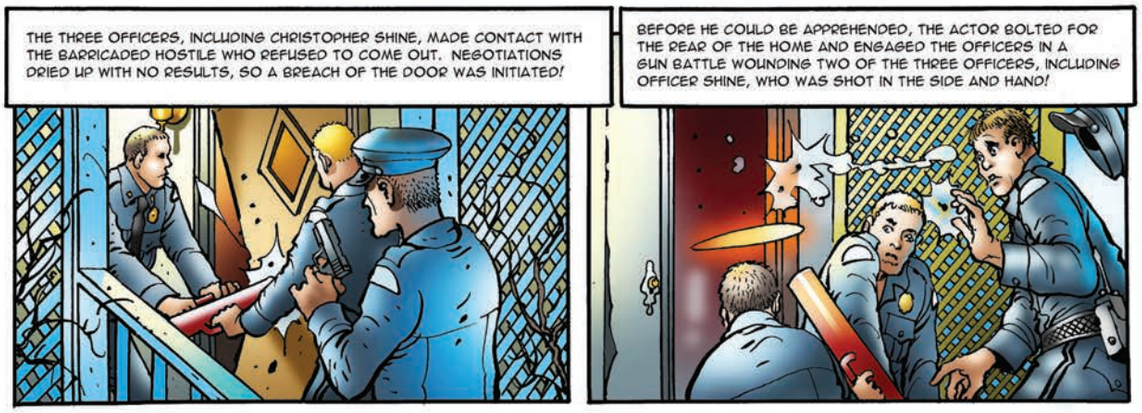
Above and Beyond...

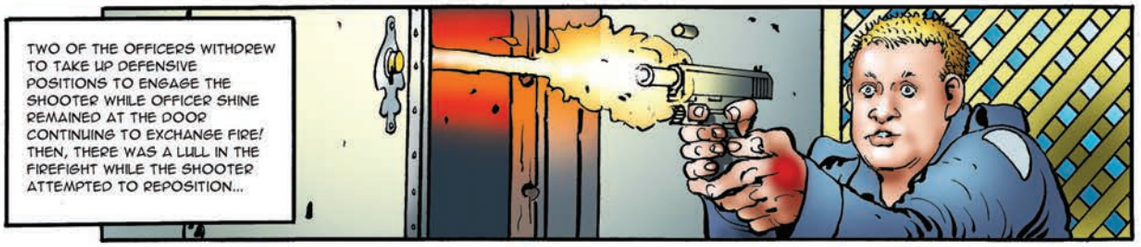
HONORING THOSE WHO TAKE RISKS AND SAVE LIVES

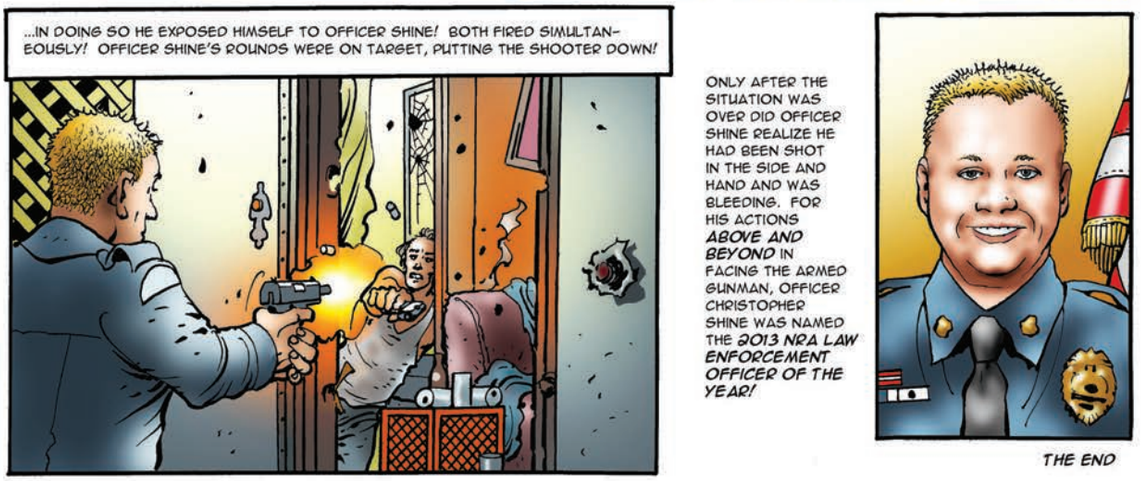
"Above and Beyond..." salutes Officer Christopher Shine of the North Liberty, Iowa, Police Department

Artwork by Don Lomax


MARCH 10, 2013
NORTH LIBERTY, IOWA
POLICE
A 911 CALL REPORTING A DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE BROUGHT NORTH LIBERTY OFFICERS TO A MOBILE HOME WHERE THE FRANTIC FEMALE MET THEM OUTSIDE AND REPORTED ABUSE FROM HER BOYFRIEND WHO WAS STILL HOLED UP IN THE RESIDENCE! THE COMPLAINANT REPORTED THAT THE INDIVIDUAL OWNED A GUN, BUT SHE DID NOT THINK HE STILL HAD IT IN THE TRAILER.


THE THREE OFFICERS, INCLUDING CHRISTOPHER SHINE, MADE CONTACT WITH THE BARRICADED HOSTILE WHO REFUSED TO COME OUT. NEGOTIATIONS DRIED UP WITH NO RESULTS, SO A BREACH OF THE DOOR WAS INITIATED!
BEFORE HE COULD BE APPREHENDED, THE ACTOR BOLTED FOR THE REAR OF THE HOME AND ENGAGED THE OFFICERS IN A GUN BATTLE WOUNDING TWO OF THE THREE OFFICERS, INCLUDING OFFICER SHINE, WHO WAS SHOT IN THE SIDE AND HAND!


TWO OF THE OFFICERS WITHDREW TO TAKE UP DEFENSIVE POSITIONS TO ENGAGE THE SHOOTER WHILE OFFICER SHINE REMAINED AT THE DOOR CONTINUING TO EXCHANGE FIRE! THEN, THERE WAS A LULL IN THE FIREFIGHT WHILE THE SHOOTER ATTEMPTED TO REPOSITION...


...IN DOING SO HE EXPOSED HIMSELF TO OFFICER SHINE! BOTH FIRED SIMULTANEOUSLY! OFFICER SHINE'S ROUNDS WERE ON TARGET, PUTTING THE SHOOTER DOWN!
ONLY AFTER THE SITUATION WAS OVER DID OFFICER SHINE REALIZE HE HAD BEEN SHOT IN THE SIDE AND HAND AND WAS BLEEDING. FOR HIS ACTIONS ABOVE AND BEYOND IN FACING THE ARMED GUNMAN, OFFICER CHRISTOPHER SHINE WAS NAMED THE 2013 NRA LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER OF THE YEAR!
THE END

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Upon acceptance, these actions will be highlighted in an illustrated format and published in a future edition of *Police and Security News*. Additionally, a digital file of the published artwork will be presented free of charge to the individual or department/agency as a remembrance. AND, the chosen participants – the nominator(s) and the honored individual(s) – will each receive a FREE pair of Original S.W.A.T. Chase 9" Tactical Side Zip boots – compliments of the Original S.W.A.T. Footwear Co.

Nominations for "Above and Beyond..." should be based on the factual rescue of a citizen or the apprehension of a criminal in which the officer(s) demonstrated exceptional courage and bravery.

Submissions should include a brief description of the incident, photos of the officer(s), as well as a letter or E-mail from the ranking officer of the department/agency certifying the nomination.

Please direct all submissions and/or questions to:
James Devery, Editor
Police and Security News
1208 Juniper St.
Quakertown, PA 18951
jdevery@policeandsecuritynews.com

2013 NRA Law Enforcement Officer of the Year

Officer Christopher Shine
North Liberty Iowa Police Department

During the early evening of March 10, 2013, officers of the North Liberty Iowa Police Department were dispatched to a 911 call reporting a domestic fight between a man and his girlfriend at their residence. The caller heard yelling and the male had been jumping on the woman's car and screaming at her. This was not the first time officers had responded to this address.

The residence was a mobile home with a small elevated enclosed deck attached to the front, with a ramp leading to the front door. Officers located a woman outside who showed signs of being assaulted, she was crying, and clearly under emotional duress. This woman was in the process of moving out of the mobile home when she was attacked by her boyfriend. When asked about weapons inside she said she thought her boyfriend had removed his pistol from the trailer earlier that day, and he was now alone.

Officers moved up the ramp to knock on the door, only to find themselves confined in a very small area with little room to maneuver. It was impossible for all of them to step away from the front of the door. The officers communicated with the boyfriend but he refused to open the door or come outside. Negotiations with the boyfriend to open the door were going nowhere so he was warned that officers would force entry. At this point the boyfriend could be partially seen through a narrow window by the side of the door. Seeing no immediate threat from him, it was decided to attempt to force the door open by kicking it in. As soon as entry was attempted the suspect ran toward the back of the mobile home. Within seconds gunfire erupted and bullets burst through the front door, and two of the three officers including Officer Christopher Shine had been shot. Officer Shine was hit in the abdomen and the second officer was hit in the chest. While the rounds caused serious injuries, they did not penetrate the body armor of either officer.

Two of the officers made it down the ramp to take covering positions, with one finding a side window to try to engage the gunman from. Officer Shine remained on the deck and while he could not see the gunman, he knew he was still in line with the now open trailer door, as rounds were still being fired towards the front door. Hoping the gunman would reveal himself, Officer Shine used to his advantage what little concealment he had to be ready to engage the attempted killer. There was a pause in the gunfire and the gunman moved into view. Seeing each other almost at the same time, the two exchanged fire. Officer Shine prevailed, striking the gunman seven times and ending the rampage. Amazingly, the time it took from the gunman's first shot and his attempt to kill the officers until Officer Shine's last shot to end the incident was only 19 seconds.

Understanding that the danger was not necessarily over, Officer Shine moved off the deck to seek cover. Only then did he realize he had been shot in the side and his hand was injured and bleeding, apparently from shrapnel.

Officer Shine's heroic actions under the most stressful and confusing circumstances while seriously injured is a credit to him, his department, and the community he serves, and were in keeping with the highest traditions of law enforcement. Had the gunman been able to continue his attack and exit the trailer, there is no doubt the lives of the girlfriend and Officer Shine's fellow officers would have been in jeopardy.

It is with great honor and pride that the National Rifle Association recognizes Officer Christopher Shine of the North Liberty Iowa Police Department for his valorous actions by naming him the 2013 NRA Law Enforcement Officer of the Year.

Scan this code with your smartphone or tablet to get more information about the NRA Law Enforcement Officer of the Year recognition.

Forms for nominating candidates for the NRA Law Enforcement Officer of the Year Award may be downloaded at http://le.nra.org/documents/pdf/law/leoy.pdf.

For more information about NRA's Law Enforcement Officer of the Year Award and its Law Enforcement Division, call (703) 267-1632 or send an e-mail to LE@nrahq.org.

Product Highlight

Law Enforcement Footwear

TRU-SPEC®

The **Tactical Side Zipper Boot**, for on and off duty activities, is available in both black and tan; has a slipguard rubber sole; quick drying lining; and MIL-SPEC stitching, along with a shock-absorbing outsole and midsole and a removable cushion insole. Rustproof metal speedlace eyelets and a rustproof zipper with a hook and loop tab offer a secure, snug fit.

Circle 3044 for More Information

ORIGINAL S.W.A.T.®

Original S.W.A.T. is proud to deliver a line of high-performance tactical boots designed and engineered for the next generation of elite law enforcement operators and service professionals – the **H.A.W.K. (High Agility Weight Kinetics) Series**. **H.A.W.K.** boots are equipped with Original S.W.A.T. custom Flex-Lite Support System build technology as their foundation. **H.A.W.K.** boots integrate a market first Flex-Lite molded nylon stability board with torsional support ridges for the ultimate in lightweight flexible support and performance. Another key component to the Flex-Lite build is the exclusive **H.A.W.K.** slip-resistant traction rubber outsole which exceeds the ASTM F489-96 safety standard.

Circle 3045 for More Information

UNDER ARMOUR®

The **Valsetz 7" Tactical Boot**, which weighs 15.5 ounces, has a slimmer athletic cut which delivers better mobility by eliminating the bulk of extra fabric. It features a water-resistant mesh upper and a fully contoured, compression molded EVA midsole to cushion the foot. A rubber outsole grips on- and off-road, while a textured high abrasion rubber toe rand protects the foot and speed lacing shanks on the upper allow for easy on/off without sacrificing a secure foot.

Circle 3046 for More Information

HAIX® NORTH AMERICA, INC.

The **HAIX Mission Black** boot was developed with law enforcement and special forces in mind. The quick lacing two zone system allows independent adjustment between the upper and lower boot and the ability to tuck the lace ends into a side pocket. Other features include ankle support with additional ankle padding, puncture protection and a special purpose Vibram® sole with rubber protectors at the front and back.

Circle 3047 for More Information

BLAUER MANUFACTURING COMPANY, INC.

The **Clash™ LT** was built for warm weather and tactical applications. Weighing just 18 ounces, it is available in six inch and eight inch heights; the mixed mesh and suede construction is backed by a perforated foam construction; and the integrated BOA® lacing system allows quick on and off while maintaining an even laced fit. An integrated ESS shank gives stabilization, and a molded polyurethane foam insole with a PU foam heel cushion provides an instant broken-in feel.

Circle 3048 for More Information

ORIGINAL S.W.A.T.®

The **Force Series** is tactically engineered to deliver new age performance and comfort focused boots to the uniform market at the best possible value. The collection includes the Force 8" Waterproof and the Force 8" Side-Zip. Each boot is equipped with the solid new Force slip-resistant outsole; a steel shank for support; a leather/1000 denier nylon upper; a Texon stability platform for lateral support and torsional rigidity; and a custom molded thermoplastic heel counter and toe box for instant comfort.

Circle 3049 for More Information

RIDGE OUTDOORS

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The **Code 6** is 15% lighter than Bates' Ultra-Lites™, making them the lightest tactical boot available from Bates. It has the traditional look of a tactical boot combined with athletic inspired design cues and performance materials. The **Code 6** is available in eight inch side zip, six inch side zip and four inch models. An engineered V-Fit lacing design provides a greater range of mobility and a vapor mesh material improves breathability by 30% while reducing hot spots on the top of the foot. A padded collar and ergonomic cushioned flex points allow for greater flexibility and all-day comfort.

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Sgt. James Post

FIFTY YEARS BEHIND THE WHEEL: PART ONE – ON THE JOB

This is my story; the story of my fifty year relationship with police cars, those noble beasts of burden, taken for granted by everyone except those who drive them.

Like most cops, I had a love/hate relationship with the police cars I drove, but, eventually, I developed a sincere appreciation for those machines which were my office, break room, lunchroom and a lifesaver to many. Eventually, my life became centered around police cars and they have been very good to me.

This is the story of how a profession turned into a hobby and then how that hobby turned into a profession. I hope you enjoy reading about one cop's journey.

October 1, 1965

That's the day I was sworn in as a Class C patrolman with the Kansas City, MO, Police Department (KCPD) at $433.33 a month. I was a member of Kansas City's 100th Recruit Class.

KCPD's first khaki colored police car, a 1984 Ford LTD – complete with cherry tops

Kansas City, MO, covers 316 square miles and, to this day, is still one of the largest geographical cities in America. It occupies the bulk of three counties – Jackson, Clay and Platte – and, when I started, the city was divided into five patrol areas which worked out of District Stations (not precincts) simply numbered One through Five.

Besides the sheer size and the three county coverage, the KCPD was, and still is, unique in the fact that it (and St. Louis) is state controlled – paid by the city, but governed by the state and has been since 1938.

After a short six week academy training, I was assigned to Number Three Station, aka Sheffield Station, due to its close proximity to the Sheffield Steel plant. Other than mom-and-pop businesses, liquor stores and a lot of bars, Number Three District was blue-collar neighborhoods made up of hardworking folks. After two weeks with my break-in officer, I headed out into a brave new world on my own as the department operated one-man cars only.

KCPD patrol cars were assigned to specific beats, operated around the clock (driven by as many as a half dozen officers in a week) and, in 1965, all of the department's cars were white.

The KCPD operated their own body shop (and still does). Most officers carried a rattle can of white paint in their briefcases to "touch up" those frequent minor mishaps encountered during a shift. The body shop generally bought whatever white paint was cheapest so, when a car was finally retired, it was not uncommon for it to wear several shades of white – both from the body shop and all those rattle can fixes.

The first police car I drove was a 1964 Plymouth. Strangely, it had a 1964 Dodge steering wheel (which commemorated Dodge's first 50 years, 1914-1964). Years later, I learned it was not uncommon for the factory to swap pieces toward the end of a model year, especially later with Diplomats and Gran Furys.

That 1964 Plymouth had the great Mopar "typewriter" push-button shifter on the left side of the dashboard, but the automatic transmission was the only luxury. Sporting a six-cylinder, the car had

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One of my field sergeant cars – a 1986 Dodge Diplomat – was shared with two other shifts.

no power windows; no power steering or power brakes; no air-conditioning; and no AM radio. For durability, the department had the front and rear seats covered in some type of olive drab canvas by a local upholstery shop. I assumed it was a military surplus material and it did wear well, but I'm certain that nonforgiving canvas was directly responsible for the "piles" which many of us had.

The Four Seasons

Kansas City is one of those great American cities where you can experience the wonders of all four seasons – which is great...unless you have to be out in it every day. With a range of 110° in the summer to 10° below zero in the winter, we had it all. But, we were prepared because we wore the same uniform year-round – a long sleeve khaki shirt, a tie and a hat (at all times). We didn't wear a jacket in the summer, except for court, and, in the worst of winter, we could add a wool overcoat called a reefer.

Remember those cars without AC? No air and the canvas seat covers made it pretty miserable in the summer. For relief, we'd all meet in a cemetery and one officer would buy the biggest, coldest watermelon he could find and, under a large tree, we'd cut it up using a car hood as a buffet. During those hidden breaks, the ties and hats were left in the cars.

Winters were another matter altogether. We ran snow tires year-round, but, when blizzards came, we were sent to the stations to "chain up" and department mechanics would meet us to install chains. We hated chains because they were invariably left on long after the main thoroughfares were clean. Many of you know how well chains work on dry pavement...they break. So, in addition to the other battle scars a cruiser might have, they all had chain rash around the rear wheel wells.

Years later, as a field sergeant, I got in a world of crap when I instructed my officers to ignore the dreaded "report for chains" call and (using a trick I had learned four-wheeling in Colorado) had them meet me and we dropped the rear tire pressure to about 15 pounds. By that time, we had radial tires and this worked great until one of my guys went to

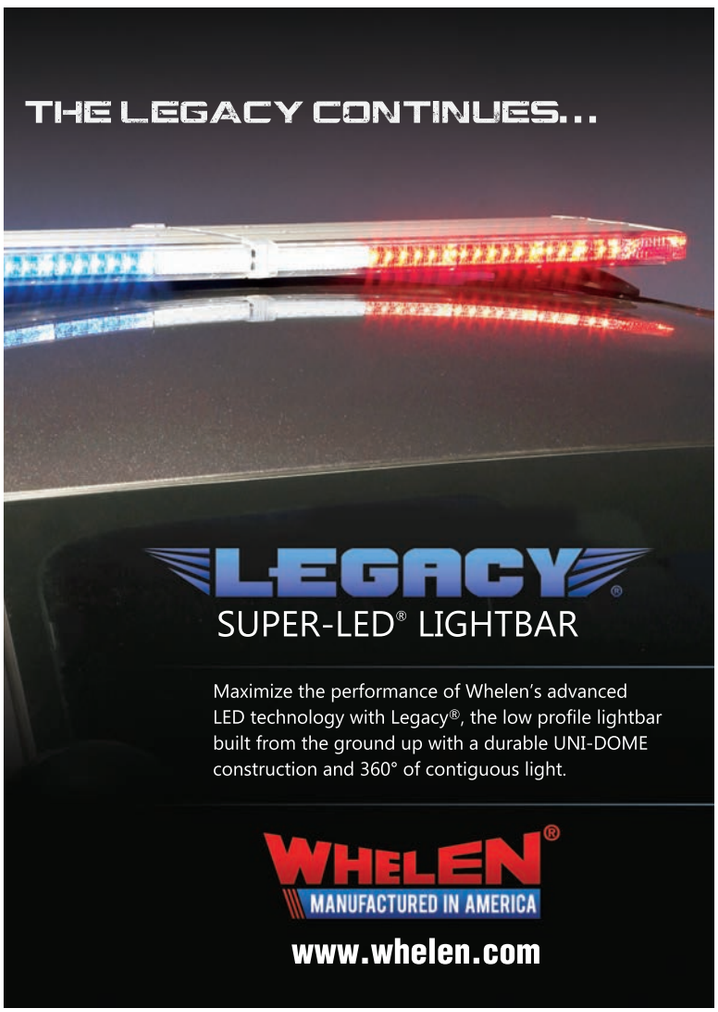
Our first silver colored patrol vehicle – a 1989 Plymouth Fury

our garage for routine maintenance and our tire adjustment was discovered. Suffice it to say, that ended our quick winter fix.

Experimental Police Cars

Kansas City was always a test ground for different cars. Dealers would send us a handful of cars not normally associated with patrol work to see how they held up. They were rotated through the stations and officers, so I ended up driving some of them. My last column described how well my first car chase went. That chase was in a 1964 V-8 Ford being evaluated.

The next test car I drove was a 1966 Pontiac, one of a handful loaned by a dealership. They had V-8s, AC, full power and AM radios which our garage promptly cut the wires to because none of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MAJOR POLICE CAR RECALLS

In what many view as the final epitaph for North America's best-selling police car ever, the Crown Victoria Police Interceptor (CVPI), Ford has announced a major recall of 2005 through 2011 models. Some see this as the final nail in the coffin of this great police car.

The recall affects the CVPIs originally sold in the following states: CT; DE; IL; IN; IA; KY; ME; MD; MA; MI; MN; MO; NH; NJ; NY; OH; PA; RI; VT; VA; WV; WI; and Washington, DC. This is what Ford has designated the "rust belt," since the recall is directly related to corrosive products (salt) used on winter streets.

Severe corrosion can seize the lower intermediate (steering) shaft which may cause the upper intermediate shaft to collapse and the steering column's lower bearing to separate. If this occurs, the vehicle can experience a loss of steering, increasing the risk of a crash. Ford says that they are not aware of any accidents, injuries or deaths because of this condition.

This recall involves 355,000 vehicles: the Crown Victoria civilian, police and taxi versions; Mercury Grand Marquis; and Lincoln Town Cars, all built at the St. Thomas plant in Canada. Current owners of these vehicles will be notified by Ford. Owners of cars not sold in the above areas are welcome to contact Ford for a free inspection.

Many all Ford departments with their own garages and parts heeded my suggestion in a column in 2010 and stocked up on the last of the breed, the 2011 CVPI. One such department is my alma mater, the Kansas City (Missouri) Police Department (KCPD), where the recall affected 420 cruisers.

Although Ford originally announced the recall last September, it has taken several months to adequately stock parts in dealerships in the affected areas and repairs are now happening. The KCPD says the repairs only take about 15 minutes, but the car is out of service for an entire day.

Owners of the popular Dodge Charger Pursuits with HEMI® 5.7L V-8s are also being notified of a recall. This involves all 2009 to 2011 police and civilian Chargers and Challengers and Chrysler 300s. The recall is related to HEMIs with the Multi-Displacement System (MDS) which switches the car from eight to four cylinders when not under acceleration. This function can cause the timing chain to break which would cause the engine to stop, resulting in a loss of most controls and a possible collision. Chrysler reports that they are not aware of any accidents because of this failure. The recall does not affect vehicles with the 6.1L HEMI.

At the time of this writing, Chrysler had not yet started supplying dealers with the necessary replacement parts. Repairs are slated to take four hours which will cause a unit to be out of service for a day.

See us at the Police Security Expo – Booth #806

Circle 3058 for More Information

the rest of the fleet had radios. Of course, we all had our trusty transistor radios to help us make it through the night.

Unfortunately, I never got to experience the AC because the Pontiacs came to us in the dead of winter. Actually, no one else ever got to experience the Pontiac I drove one miserable day. I was dispatched to an accident at a busy intersection at the bottom of a three block long hill. As I topped the hill, I could see the accident below me. I could also see the two ribbons of ice which led to the accident. Hopelessly, I started the same slide as the other drivers. Then, I hit the other cars. As I was radioing in, I was struck by a car which followed me down the hill and it was followed by many more. My buddies in dispatch got a laugh as they heard most of these impacts over my open mike.

The next unique cruiser I drove was as a new field sergeant in 1974 when a Ford dealership provided a few 1974 Torinos for a trial (think of Starsky and Hutch's Torino in a four-door).

Before I start this story, I must pause and introduce you to Sgt. James Rowe, easily the most feared man in the department. He was the department's safety officer, solely responsible for investigating all department accidents and determining fault. Always impeccably dressed in a suit and never without a hat, he reminded me of Sgt. Joe Friday (Jack Webb). Following a crash, we sweated blood awaiting either a "nonpreventable" or "preventable" verdict from Sgt. Rowe.

Everyone involved in a vehicle mishap sweated bullets while waiting for Sgt. Rowe's verdict.

Punishment, of course, was left up to our commanding officer.

Sgt. Rowe's turf was not limited to accidents. He once painted the left side of department brake pedals white to determine who was using "two foot" driving tactics. That's the kind of guy he was.

I crossed paths with Sgt Rowe twice in that Torino. The first was after a wild car chase with a kid in a souped up 1956 Chevy. Unfortunately, I don't have the space to detail the lengthy chase here, but, during the chase, he struck a plainclothes officer running towards him and that upgraded the car chase to a felony hit-and-run and the gloves came off. The chase went through two states and numerous jurisdictions with a whole lot of pissed off cops involved. Being lead, I rammed him several times and I blew two tires broad sliding into a curb and I ran on the rims for a while. But, we got him after he slowed to push his girlfriend out in front of pursuing officers.

The adrenalin of the car chase soon changed into chills and sweat anticipating Sgt. Roe's examination of the car. Since he had already been briefed on this horrific chase, he looked the car over for a couple of minutes and proclaimed, "Good job, Sergeant, no fault!"

Two months later, his decision was the same when the Torino was totaled in a T-bone accident as I was speeding to a holdup alarm at a frequently robbed KFC. The elderly driver ignored (or didn't see) my emergency lights. The accident occurred after a light rain and there was a ten foot wide wet strip split by the centerline. Due to my speed, I did about five 360s right down that wet strip for half a block. I'm certain that, if the pavement had been dry, I wouldn't be writing this today.

The Best of Times

The KCPD has maintained its own jail since the current headquarters was built in 1938. Only bondable arrests are held at the separate stations and all others are transported to the jail ASAP by the patrol (paddy) wagons assigned to each station. A paddy wagon driver was a highly coveted position because he wasn't required to take reports – just haul prisoners.

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In 1967, when a wagon driver opening came up, I jumped at the chance. By then, we were on "frozen" (permanent) shifts. I worked 11:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. ("dogwatch") and loved it. Our paddy wagons were Chevy panel trucks with a steel covered plywood partition between the driver and the prisoners who were provided two steel benches and two 2" x 10" openings for ventilation.

Shortly after getting my own wagon, we were issued Chemical Mace® and, naturally, everyone who caused a fuss was liberally sprayed with the stuff before being thrown into the wagon. Gaps around the partition were poorly sealed and, about five minutes into a transport, the Mace would reach me. I quickly developed an immunity to Mace, but only after a lot of trips with burning tears running down my cheeks.

Stowaway

In 1968, I was involved in an experiment called "Two Man Wagons." Since two (one man) cars were dispatched to hot calls like disturbances, fights, etc., the department brass decided to make most of the wagons "two man" and we were dispatched to handle those calls alone, freeing up the district cars for patrol and other calls. We were two man wrecking crews – break up the fights, make arrests when needed and off to the next call. We had a capacity of about five prisoners per bench, so we made many trips to headquarters with ten, 12 or more unhappy passengers.

One quiet night, my partner and I dropped arrests at headquarters and lingered for a couple of cups of strong jailhouse coffee. Finished, we hopped back into our wagon and returned to our area. We transported no one else that tour and we rolled into the station shortly before shift change to hose out the prisoner compartment which was required. To our amazement, blissfully sleeping on the floor was a huge drunk man a wagon crew from another zone had loaded into our wagon while we were parked at headquarters. This fellow had taken so many wagon trips he was accustomed to the accommodations and never made a sound all night as he slept off his stupor.

Stay tuned for Part Two, titled "The Rest of the Story." P&SN

About the Author: James G. Post always welcomes your comments, complaints and praise. He can be reached at kopkars@arkansas.net.

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2014 Police Security Expo

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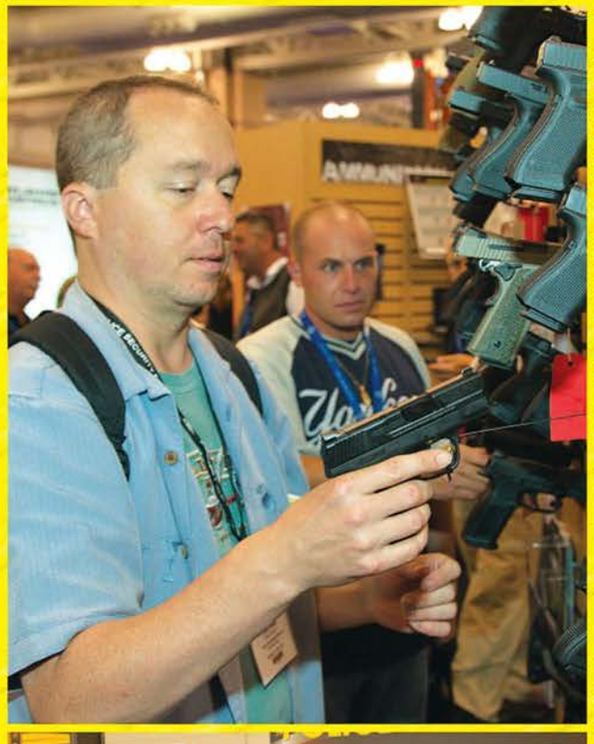

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28th Annual Police Security Expo 2014 Exhibitors as of 05-01-14

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Exhibitor listings are as of date of publication.
NOTE: Exhibitor names and booth numbers are subject to change.

SEMINARS/PRODUCT DEMOS

Free Admission to All Expo Attendees (with PSE 2014 Expo Badge)

Tuesday, June 24, 2014
Exhibits Open: 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

11:00 a.m.
Room #315
Evidence That Counts! Video Archiving System
Demo: The Latest In-vehicle Surveillance Technology
Quickly and easily identify the type of event with features developed exclusively for law enforcement. Tagged events are sorted and named by vehicle, event type and date.
Presenters: Steve Rupe and Richie Howard (VizuCop)

11:30 a.m
Room #310
Digital In-car Video
Product Presentation for 4RE Camera System
Presenter: Wayne Koveleskie (WatchGuard Video)

12:15 p.m.
Entranceway
Opening Ceremonies
New Jersey State Association of Chiefs of Police (Expo Host)

12:30 p.m.
Room #318
Tamper Evident Property/Evidence Bags
The Importance and Value of Tamper Evident Technology
Demonstration of Tamper Evident Property/Evidence Bags
Presenter: Jon Missert (Shields Security Bags)

1:00 p.m.
Room #316
Digital Evidence Manager
Overview of the Workflow for the Management of Digital Evidence which Encompasses Video, Audio Files, Scanned Documents, and Crime Scene and Accident Photos
Presenter: John Kwan (VeriPic)

1:30 p.m.
Room #317
Lockdown Management Software
Demo: The SLIM™ system provides first responders with immediate visibility into building status and real-time communication with a building's occupants during a lockdown event. Through an interactive floor plan and integration with building cameras, law enforcement gains an immediate view of building conditions by room to determine where action is required.
Presenter: Keith Mandelbaum (SwiftReach Networks)

2:00 p.m.
Room #307
LIDAR Speed Detection Equipment
Learn About the Latest Technology Available for Speed Detection and Recording, as Well as Accident Diagramming Equipment
Presenter: Brian Ferry (Laser Technology, Inc.)

2:30 p.m.
Room #306
Auto Impound Management
Demo: Web-based software tracks and controls every vehicle from the moment it is impounded to the moment it is reclaimed, auctioned or recycled, as directed by regula tions. Identify new revenue streams, track costs, stream line operations and meet compliance regulations.
Presenter: Lorraine Friel (NOBEL Systems, Inc.)

3:00 p.m.
Room #305
Spine Surgery
Presentation on the Benefits of Minimally Invasive Spine Surgery and Fusions
Presenter: Dr. Daveed Frazier (Atlantic Spine Center)

3:00 p.m.
Room #320
Electronic Crash Reporting
Analyze your crash information like never before – increase efficiency, reduce administrative time and costs, enhance investigations.
Presenter: Rich Pepe (LexisNexis)

3:30 p.m.
Room #315
Mobile Workforce Opportunities and Challenges
Smartphones are capable of capturing critical information while our mobile workforce is in the field. This is a discus sion on the key challenges and the opportunity to include real-time information as part of ongoing emergency situations.
Presenter: C.J. Silva (KOVA Corporation)

Wednesday, June 25, 2014
Exhibits Open: 10:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

11:00 a.m.
Room #315
Evidence That Counts! Video Archiving System
Demo: The Latest In-vehicle Surveillance Technology
Quickly and easily identify the type of event with features developed exclusively for law enforcement. Tagged events are sorted and named by vehicle, event type and date.
Presenters: Steve Rupe and Richie Howard (VizuCop)

11:30 a.m.
Room #320
Electronic Crash Reporting
Analyze your crash information like never before – increase efficiency, reduce administrative time and costs and enhance investigations.
Presenter: Rich Pepe (LexisNexis)

12:00 Noon
Room #306
Department of Defense Equipment Available to Law Enforcement
Overview of how qualified law enforcement agencies can requisition DoD excess equipment online with the only cost being shipping from the location it resides in the U.S. Information discussed on how law enforcement agencies can properly account for it in their own property books.
Presenter: Dan Arnold (Defense Logistics Agency, Law Enforcement Support Office)

12:30 p.m.
Room #305
Military HMMWV – Parts – Service – Tech Support
Discussion on the Availability of Military HMMWVs to Municipalities from the 1033 Program; Learn How to Maintain, Operate, Service and Get Parts
Presenter: Dennis Marion (Kascar, LLC)

12:30 p.m.
Room #307
Proven, Budget-friendly Two-way Radio Solutions
Discussion: Conventional Analog Radios to P25 Trunking, Including Radios which Have Been Approved on the State of NJ Radio System
Presenter: Matt Crossan (PMC Associates)

1:00 p.m.
Room #316
Digital Evidence Manager
Overview of the Workflow for the Management of Digital Evidence which Encompasses Video, Audio Files, Scanned Documents and Crime Scene and Accident Photos
Presenter: John Kwan (VeriPic)

1:30 p.m.
Room #317
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Presenter: Keith Mandelbaum (SwiftReach Networks)

Association Meetings (3rd Floor Meeting Rooms):
N.J. Association of School Resource Officers
N.J. Traffic Safety Officers Association

NOTE: SCHEDULE SUBJECT TO CHANGES
Please check the PSE 2014 "Seminar Page" online at www.police-security.com for additional seminars and product demonstrations.

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Pair of Black Eagle® Athletic 11 Low Footwear – HAIX® North America, Inc.

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(2) Model 700C Chain Link Handcuffs (One Pair Daily) – Peerless® Handcuff Co.

Advanced Tactical Sling Bag – Fox Tactical

(3) Sunglasses by Gargoyles® ($99.00 Value Each) – Red the Uniform Tailor

The PunchOut Doorway Speed Bag Trainer – HaysCo Manufacturing, LLC

Coupon for a Free Badge – Smith & Warren

(3) ProTac® HL® 3 Flashlight – Streamlight®, Inc.

$100 American Express® Gift Card – LexisNexis® Risk Solutions

Pair of Smith & Wesson® Footwear Boots – Tactical Holdings Operations

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(2) Pair of Mayhem Patrol Gloves – Intersport Group, Inc.

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Additional Prize Drawings

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Pair of Wellco Boots – Tactical Holdings Operations

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(2) Complete Product Set: 12AA Pack, CR123 Caddy, A9 Pack, C4 Caddy, The Original Pack, D4 Caddy, AAA Caddy, 9V Caddy, AA Caddy, Caddy Pouch, Coupon – StoraCell

(2) Raffle Box Containing at Least Seven Promotional Items – Kussmaul Electronics Co., Inc.

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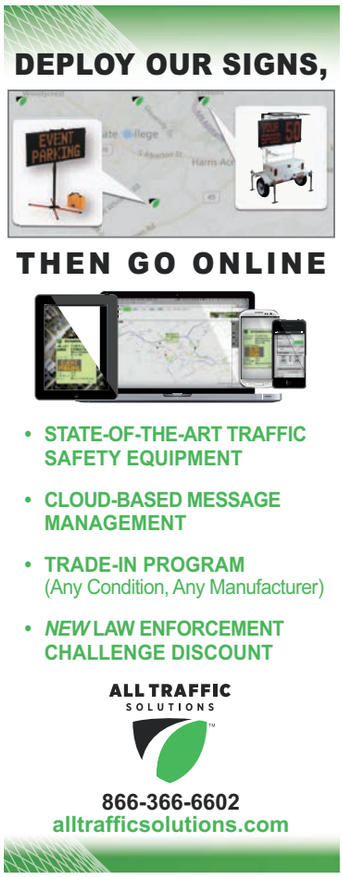

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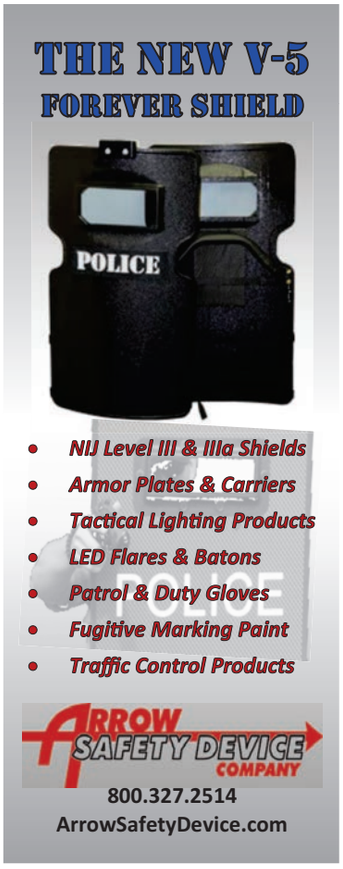

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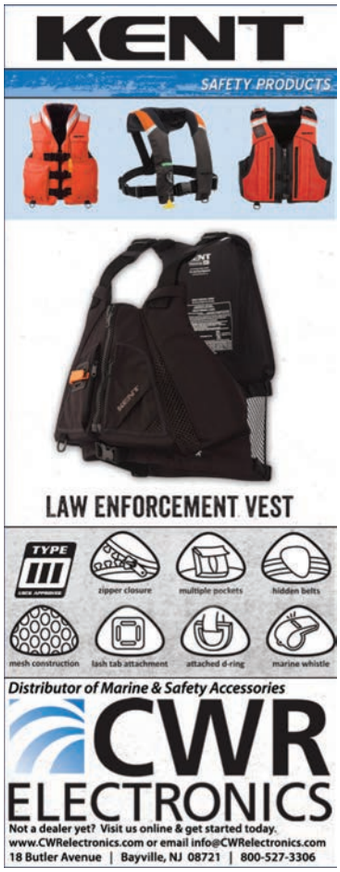

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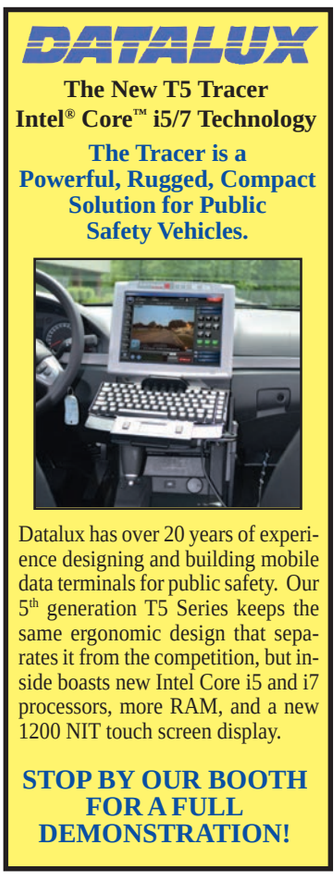
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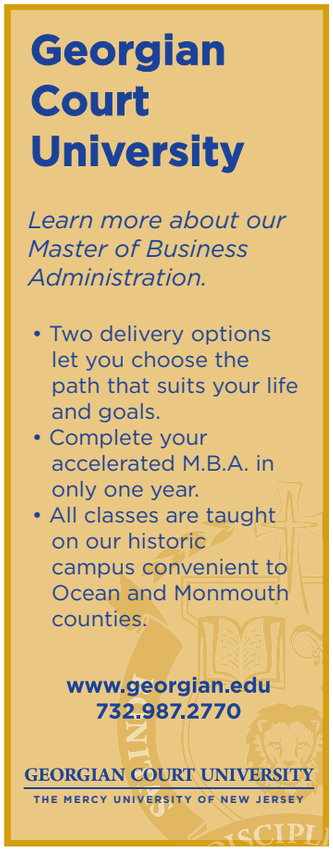
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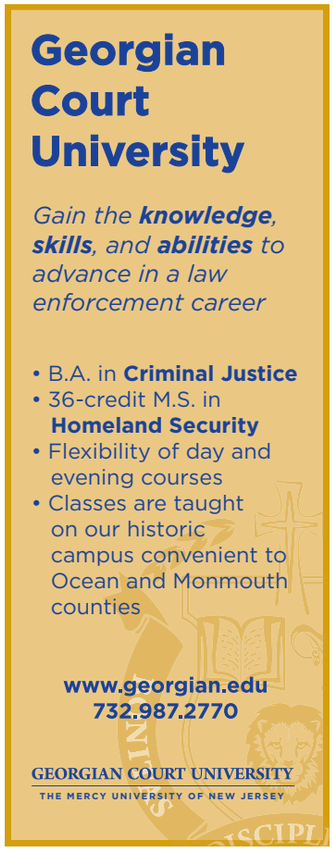
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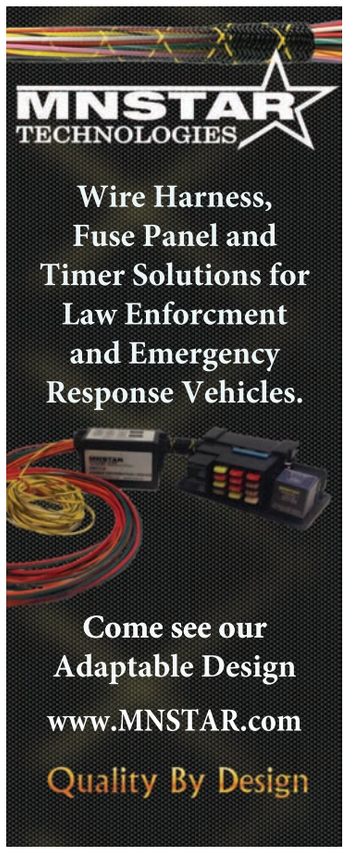
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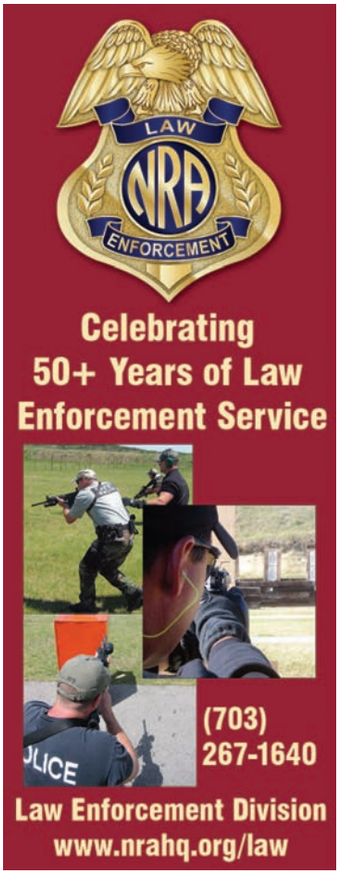

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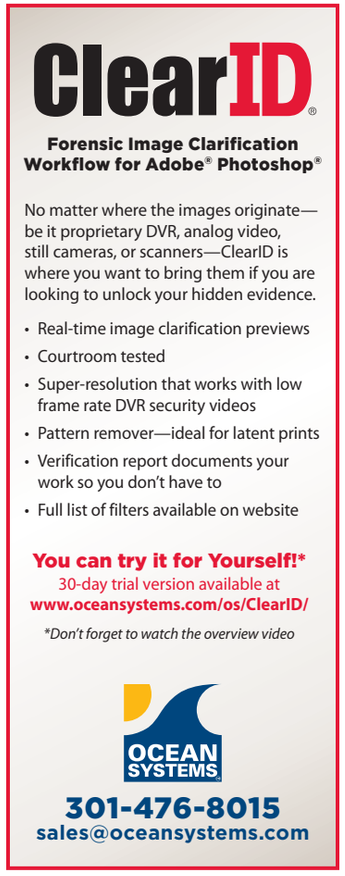
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Hash Oil Extraction Demand Brings New Risks

NEWS

An increase in the number of hash oil extraction labs in the province of Alberta, Canada, is increasing the risk of fires and explosions. The Alberta Law Enforcement Response Team (ALERT) and Edmonton Fire Rescue Services (EFRS) are renewing their plea to the public to report marijuana grow operations due to the risks they pose.

ALERT's Green Team, made up of Calgary Police Service (CPS), Edmonton Police Service (EPS) and Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) members, is familiar with the risks of grow operations, but states that the hash oil extraction process presents a whole new level of danger due to its use of highly flammable chemicals such as butane gas and isopropyl alcohol.

"The hash oil extraction process is extremely dangerous for residents, neighbors and first responders," said Sgt. Dwayne Karpo of Green Team North. "We are seeing people try to emulate the process by watching videos on the Internet, but, in some cases, the results have been deadly."

Hash oil is made using the byproduct of a marijuana plant, with the leaves and stems being soaked in butane gas or isopropyl alcohol to extract the potent cannabinoid containing resin. The process is very dangerous and has led to several explosions and fires in the past year. In May 2013, an explosion at an Evansburg extraction lab killed one man, left another man seriously injured and completely leveled the home.

"Extraction labs pose an increased risk to public safety, as well as to emergency first responders," said Fire Marshal Tom Karpa, Edmonton Fire Rescue Services. "The volume of volatile and flammable liquids stored in an extraction lab generally far exceeds the allowable amount for a residential occupancy, greatly increasing the risk of fire and explosion. Firefighters are not expecting these types of volatiles when they respond to an event at a residential occupancy."

The demand for hash oil, or cannabis resin, is attributed to the proliferation of electronic cigarettes. Users report a more intense high than marijuana and it is more discreet with almost no odor.

The Green Team is an ALERT team established and funded by the Government of Alberta to bring together the province's most sophisticated law enforcement resources to tackle serious and organized crime. Nearly 400 municipal police, RCMP and sheriffs work for ALERT.

For more information, visit **www.alert-ab.ca**.

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Mike Boyle

HANDGUN FIT: SIZE REALLY MATTERS

Success in most every athletic or physical endeavor can be linked to equipment which properly fits the end user.

Babe Ruth met with great success swinging a 42 ounce bat, but most of us mortals would have a difficult time managing such a heavy piece of lumber. How about hiking the Appalachian Trail in boots a couple of sizes too small? Odds are you wouldn't make it through the first day. If we accept the fact that fit is important, logic would dictate that police officers be equipped with firearms which allow them to perform to the highest standard.

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An average adult male's hand (top) is pictured with an adult female's hand (bottom). It is unlikely that a handgun grip which is optimum for the male user will fit the smaller female hand.

Considering the serious ramifications of police use of firearms, I'm often dismayed by the lack of attention given to this critical issue. Officers who are issued unsuitable firearms are rarely able to perform to an adequate standard which puts them, and the public they serve, at risk. With handguns, the primary culprit is often grip circumference which makes it difficult, if not impossible, for shooters with small hands to shoot to a high standard.

For the last 30 years, I have been heavily involved in police firearms instruction. Back in the day, the law enforcement workforce was almost exclusively male and many agencies maintained minimum height and weight requirements for applicants. This practice effectively eliminated just about all females as well as males with a small stature. Things have changed quite a bit over the last three decades and recent academy classes I've participated in have been about 30% female. It has been my experience that both men and women can be trained to perform to a very high standard with firearms, providing they utilize the right gear.

Proper Handgun Fit

In order to obtain a proper fit with a handgun, the shooter must place the thumb crotch (the web between the thumb and index finger) directly behind the backstrap and the distal pad of the index finger centered on the trigger. Shooters who utilize traditional Double-Action (DA) or Double-Action-Only (DAO) pistols need to insert their index finger slightly deeper in order to overcome the heavier trigger stroke. This relationship allows the shooter to depress the trigger straight to the rear while directing recoil to the soft tissue of the thumb crotch. With a modern auto pistol, this task can be easily accomplished by male users with medium- to large-sized hands.

Users with smaller hands will experience a more difficult time obtaining a proper shooting grip. In many cases, this will be impossible to achieve with some high capacity pistols. The logical choice of action is to select a pistol with a narrower grip frame. This could take the form of a single stack pistol or one of the contemporary polymer frame self-loaders with interchangeable backstraps. Unfortunately, many agencies are still hung up on the concept of uniformity and authorize but a single

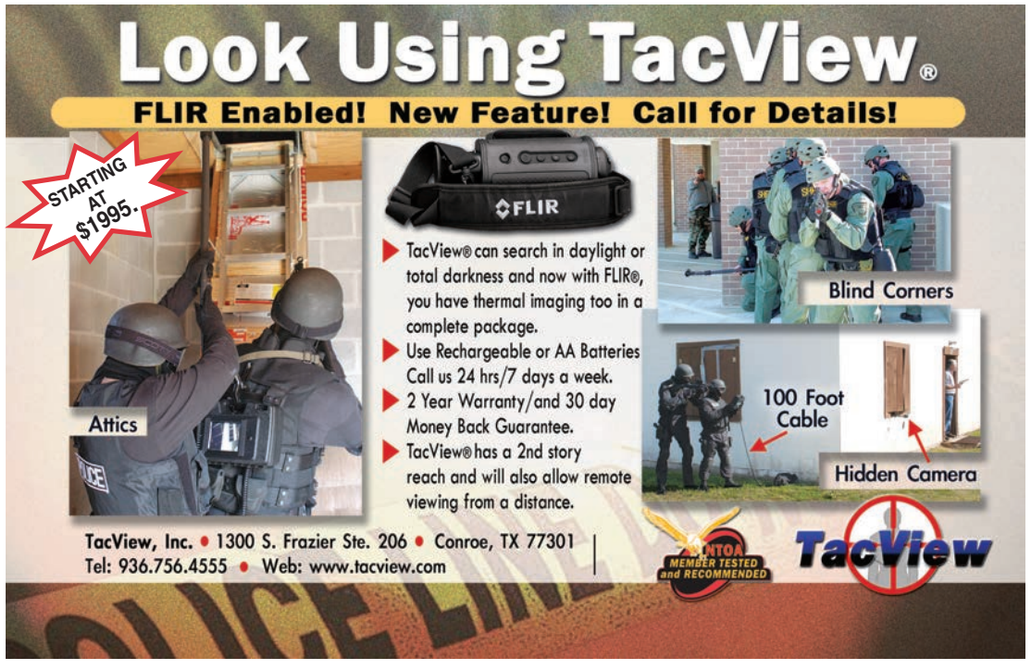
The distal pad of the finger needs to be centered on the trigger. If this is not possible, it often indicates the grip is too large.

model of handgun. When uniformity gets in the way of performance, it's time to take a look at what really matters.

Far too often, I have witnessed academy recruits show up for training with ill fitting firearms. Inevitably, their performance falls far behind their classmates and they need to be remediated in order to pass the firearms portion of their training. Sadly, their performance will always be borderline as long as they are saddled with a poor fitting firearm. While they may be able to "qualify," their real-world performance leaves much to be desired.

Small stature officers stuck with oversized handguns often find a way to make it work, but it's often the wrong way. Very often, they obtain proper finger placement on the trigger, but they are unable to center the web of the hand behind the backstrap. Consequently, recoil is directed into the base of the thumb and even the light kicking 9mm becomes unbearable in short order.

Another less than optimum fix is that the pistol is properly centered in the thumb crotch, but the finger isn't long enough to make proper contact with the trigger. Instead of the distal pad making contact with the trigger and bringing it to the rear,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the fingertip is used. This less than optimum placement is very fatiguing and causes lateral dispersion of the shots on the target and total misses as the range increases.

In almost every instance, this difficulty can be attributed to a large, double stack grip frame making proper trigger contact impossible. More often than not, vast improvements in shooter proficiency can be realized with a pistol which actually fits the hand.

In Search of the Perfect Pistol

Hand size remains a constant in our equation for success. Quite simply, we can make our hands stronger, but not bigger. The best solution seems to be seeking out a handgun – or a family of handguns – which can be adapted to a wide range of hand sizes.

Back when auto pistols replaced revolvers as the law enforcement sidearm of choice, many of the more popular models had grip frames which featured similar ergonomics to a box of Wheaties – big and square – and did nothing to enhance shooter performance.

On a positive note, superior designs are now readily available from just about all the major manufacturers. The contemporary lineup of auto pistols includes well designed, striker-fired, traditional DA, DAO, and single-action pistols to fit the widest range of hand sizes.

The Beretta Px4 Storm can be adapted to different hand sizes by changing the backstrap.

One of the more interesting trends in the evolution of the auto pistol is the development of pistols with interchangeable backstraps. By swapping out the standard-sized backstrap for a smaller one, the end user with smaller hands can achieve an optimum grip. On the flip side, larger backstraps can be added to better accommodate users with hands the size of a catcher's mitt. This feature can be found on the Smith & Wesson® M&P, Beretta Px4 Storm, FNH USA FNX™, and Ruger® SR9®/SR40®.

Not to be outdone, Heckler & Koch has taken this concept to the next level with their innovative P30. Not only are the backstraps interchangeable, but the side panels are as well. In fact, one can mix and match different size side panels with their backstrap of choice to get that perfect fit.

Officers and agencies which favor DAO pistols may want to consider the P250® from SIG SAUER®. Available in full-size, compact, and subcompact configurations, the P250 is available in six different ergonomic combinations. Three different size grip modules with circumferences running from small to large, in addition to two different trigger lengths, are available. No matter what your hand size, the P250 can be set up for an ideal fit.

Recently, SIG SAUER has added the striker-fired P320™ to the mix. The polymer frame P320 bears a strong semblance to the earlier P250, but with an entirely different trigger system. It, too, is available in different size grip modules for an optimum fit. Both service size and compact versions of the P320 can be had.

Improved fit is not limited to polymer frame pistols. A few years back, I picked up a SIG SAUER P226® E2 which featured a trimmer one-piece grip and an easier to reach trigger. This change has now been incorporated into the SIG SAUER Elite series which includes the P226 and P229®.

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The new SIG SAUER® P320™ is available with small, medium, or large grip modules to ensure comfort and optimum fit.

Of course, fans of the timeless 1911 are quick to point out that hand size is rarely an issue with this classic. I recognize that many outfits have a problem with the "cocked and locked" 1911 for uniform carry, but it remains a viable choice. We seem to accept light trigger guns like the GLOCK® without getting our knickers in a knot, so why not a 1911 which fits the hand?

A Custom Touch

GLOCK remains the dominant force in the police handgun market and these pistols continue to provide outstanding service. Three years ago, GLOCK introduced their Gen 4 pistols which include interchangeable backstraps to better accommodate different size hands. While a step in the right direction, many shooters in the know feel that a further reduction in grip size is still desirable.

On a double-action-only pistol, the shooter needs to insert the finger slightly deeper so that the distal pad just above the joint is centered on the trigger. This is not possible if the grip is too large.

My agency has fielded GLOCK pistols for well over 20 years and, on the whole, we have been pleased with their performance. I have encountered a few officers who had a difficult time getting a proper hold on their GLOCK pistol, so corrective action was taken.

The Robar Companies of Phoenix, Arizona, pioneered the reduction of GLOCK's polymer grip frame and, for small-handed users, the result is dramatic. I have had a small number of GLOCK 17s and 19s so modified and the results speak for themselves. My large frame GLOCK 29 has also benefitted by a grip reduction and external dimensions are now much closer to the medium-size 9mm frame. Unlike interchangeable backstraps, the Robar modification is a one-way street, but, if grip dimensions are beyond your practical limit, you'll be glad you took this route.

It Ain't Rocket Science

Administrators who cling to the "one size fits all" notion need to wake up and smell the coffee. Some of the newer polymer frame pistols with interchangeable backstraps are well suited to the widest range of hand sizes, but, in certain instances, even they might not be the ideal solution. In my book, performance will always trump uniformity.

Obviously, officers who provide their own handgun have the greatest latitude in selecting an optimum model. Agencies which issue sidearms might be best served by staying within a

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family of guns. Training continuity and armorer support are maintained, yet officers can be equipped with a firearm they can shoot to a high standard. Logistical issues – such as different types of handguns, holsters, and, even, caliber – are more easily resolved than pretending to train officers on ill suited equipment.

Bottom Line

Proper fit remains far more important than uniformity, caliber, or magazine capacity. In the high stakes world of law enforcement, the ability to effectively manage, and accurately fire, the service handgun is paramount. The bottom line is that everyone needs to be at the top of their game. A pistol which actually fits the officer's hand remains a key component in his (or her) formula for success.

About the Author: Captain Mike Boyle served with the New Jersey Division of Fish & Wildlife, Bureau of Law enforcement, and has been an active firearms instructor for more than 30 years. He has been an assistant police academy director and remains active as an academy rangemaster and instructor. Mike has served on the Board of Directors of the International Association of Law Enforcement Firearms Instructors (IALEFI) since 1996. He is the architect and coordinator of IALEFI's Master Instructor Development Program.

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LASER SIGHTS FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT

Mike Boyle

Once found mainly in science fiction/action movies, laser sights have evolved over the years to provide officers with distinct tactical advantages under the right circumstances.

The topic of laser sights is likely to generate some very strong opinions – both for and against. Some professionals consider them to be the greatest thing since indoor plumbing, while others dismiss laser sights as so much techno-trash. Truth be told, I was a bit slow warming up to the concept of laser sights, but I have come to the conclusion that they can fill a very valuable tactical niche.

Lasers were developed in the l950s and are used for a variety of medical and industrial applications. In 1979, Dr. John Matthews developed the first laser gun sight. The initial helium neon laser was mounted to a Colt Trooper revolver and, while both large and unwieldy by contemporary standards, it set the stage for things to come. A few years later, a laser sighted handgun hit the big time and scored a "starring role" in the sci-fi hit, *The Terminator*. It's a matter of debate as to whether archvillain Arnold Schwarzenegger, or the laser sighted AMT Hardballer Longslide, had the bigger role.

Hype aside, we weren't quite there yet and early laser sights were large and fragile and required a special holster. These qualities didn't make them exactly cop-friendly. That all began to change in the 1990s, largely due to firms such as Crimson Trace and LaserMax®. In short order, compact and reliable laser sight systems proved to be game changers – well suited to a wide range of self-defense applications.

The first laser aiming product was a Colt Trooper .357 Magnum with a helium-neon gas laser sight, powered by a custom-built rechargeable battery.

The Laser Advantage

Lasers utilized for law enforcement applications project a red, green or an InfraRed (IR) beam. Red and green are most commonly utilized in civilian law enforcement and place a colored dot on the target's surface. In low light conditions, lasers might be far easier to use than conventional sights. While red and green lasers are typically visible indoors, they are next to impossible to see outdoors in bright light. But, when you consider that the vast majority of police action shootings take place under less than optimum light conditions, their advantage is readily apparent.

A laser sight enables the user to obtain a reliable index on a threat, even if the gun cannot be brought up to eye level. Should an officer sustain an injury or have to fire from a nontypical position, a laser can help get you on target to deliver decisive hits. In my experience, lasers provide a tangible advantage when shooting while moving.

Potentially lethal threats in close proximity often trigger Body Alarm Reaction (BAR) and can play havoc with one's ability to focus on the sights. A number of credible studies suggest that, when we are subjected to life threatening danger in close quarters, we will lock in on the threat, not the sights. I'm not a big fan of point shooting beyond a few yards and the single plane focus of the laser can enhance hit probability at all practical pistol fighting distances.

Different Strokes for Different Folks

Currently, there are a number of laser sight systems ideally suited for law enforcement use. Units are available for handguns as well as shoulder weapons, with a variety of switching options. With a little bit of research, you can probably find something which works for you.

For handguns, one can select a laser sight con-

The SureFire® X400® is yet another high quality unit which combines white light and a laser aimer.

tained or affixed to the grip, inside the guide rod or mounted to the integral accessory rail. A few companies are turning out combination units which offer both white light and a laser aimer. For law enforcement use, stand-alone external units are best utilized on shoulder weapons.

Laser sights from reputable manufacturers are just about as tough as the guns on which we mount them. As long as you steer clear of the "hobby grade" systems, your laser sights will provide years of reliable service. I've had the good fortune of owning and reviewing several different types of laser sight systems in recent years and what follows is pretty much what I consider to be the best of the breed.

Crimson Trace

Crimson Trace markets a wide array of sight systems, many of which are ideally suited for law enforcement use. The best choice, however, remains their line of Lasergrips®. I've used Lasergrips for Beretta, GLOCK® and Smith & Wesson® handguns and they always deliver the goods. As the name implies, the laser aimer is contained in the grip and is installed by replacing the factory panels with the Crimson Trace unit. On polymer pistols, such as the GLOCK or Smith & Wesson M&P, the Lasergrips sight system is easily attached to the integral grip frame.

Crimson Trace Lasergrips feature "Instinctive Activation," a quality unique to the brand. As soon as you take a shooting grip on the handgun, the laser comes on. When you holster or relax your grip, the laser turns off. Although the concept of instinctive activation is likely to stir up some debate, it does, in fact, speed up the process of getting dialed in on the target. With a bit of practice, I've also found that I can quickly draw my gun and maintain it in a ready position without activating the laser.

In addition to Lasergrips, Crimson Trace also turns out the Laserguard® family. Crimson Trace Laserguard sights mount to the pistol's frame at the trigger guard and are ideally suited for smaller pistols. Once again, Crimson Trace has incorporated their instinctive activation switching into the Laserguard system. Holsters from popular

The Laser Devices DBAL-A² is a state-of-the-art, multifunctional unit with IR laser, visible laser and white light capabilities.

manufacturers which are cut to accommodate a Laserguard equipped pistol are available through Crimson Trace.

Laser Devices

Founded in 1979, and now part of the Beretta Defense Technologies (BDT) alliance, Laser Devices focuses on creating laser-based weapon aiming solutions.

Their Dual Beam Aiming Laser (DBAL) family of lasers is designed to maximize functionality in a compact package. All of the models in this line attach to any Picatinny rail using the patented, self-adjusting Quick Release HT Mount and are fully adjustable for windage and elevation. They

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instantly switch between high and low power modes, while a blue safety screw prevents inadvertent access to the high power mode of laser operation. Other features include an integrated "fire" button and remote cable switch activation.

The DBAL-A^2 is one model available in visible red or green laser, IR laser and IR laser illuminator. It uses single activation switch and an improved IR illuminator for better illumination at longer distances; a circular beam allows for accurate range estimation and engagement of moving targets.

Recently, the Los Angeles Police Department Metro Division's D-Platoon (SWAT) announced its choice of the DBAL-A^2. This multifunction laser incorporates an IR illuminator, IR laser and green visible laser. When affixed to LAPD SWAT's carbines, it will provide enhanced ability in just about every conceivable light condition.

LaserMax

LaserMax was among the first to offer a practical sight system for the law enforcement professional. By placing the laser diode in the pistol's guide rod, the LaserMax system offers advantages not available in competitive design. A major consideration is that no special holster is required after retrofitting a LaserMax Guide Rod Laser to your pistol. Considering that most uniformed police officers now utilize some sort of retention holster, this is a very real advantage.

Because the laser diode is contained in the

LaserMax® Guide Rod Lasers do not require a special holster.

pistol's guide rod, it rides closer to the axis of the bore than with other systems. This helps maintain the most consistent relationship between the point of aim and point of impact. LaserMax Guide Rod Lasers are automatically aligned for center of mass accuracy at 20 yards and there is no need to sight it in after installing it on your pistol.

Batteries are easily replaced by removing a cap in the guide rod. LaserMax Guide Rod Laser units are also unique in that they project a pulsing beam which they claim attracts the eye faster than a constant on beam. An activation switch is easily accessible and there is no need to alter the grip when turning the laser on or off.

The original LaserMax units projected a red, pulsating beam. This past summer, LaserMax raised the bar with the introduction of "Native Green," the first true green laser sight system. Other green lasers might be best described as synthetic.

I've installed a Native Green laser on my GLOCK 19 and, to date, results have been very positive. Installation is a snap and is achieved by replacing the factory takedown lever and spring and replacing the factory guide rod unit with the Native Green one from LaserMax. Pushing the takedown lever in toward the frame from either side fires up the laser.

In addition to the guide rod units, LaserMax also turns out the CenterFire™ family for smaller handguns which are often carried for backup and off duty applications. CenterFire units mount directly to the frame via the trigger. I've long considered laser sights on small handguns to be a force multiplier. CenterFire sights are available for many small autopistols, as well as for the Ruger® LCR® revolver.

Combo Units

Both SureFire® and Streamlight® produce combination units which feature a white light illuminator with a laser aimer. This allows the user to identify and assess a potential threat and, if necessary, obtain a reliable index if shooting is justified. Combination units are far easier to use than coordinating a handheld light and laser equipped pistol. This is especially true in fast breaking, high stress situations where operating different switching systems can prove confusing.

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After inventing the first laser gun sights, John Matthews founded Laser Products, a company we now know as SureFire. This California-based firm continues to turn out cutting edge equipment and the SureFire X400® laser/illuminator is true to the tradition. I have been running an X400 for several years now and it has never let me down. Recently, the X400 got the "Ultra" treatment and it now has been upgraded to an astonishing 500 lumens of intense white light. The X400 can be set for white light only, laser only or white light and laser which I prefer.

Streamlight is another player in the law enforcement market and their TLR family deserves a hard look. It, too, offers a laser aimer along with an intense white light illuminator to give you the best of both worlds.

This year, Streamlight introduced the TLR-4™ G, a lightweight tactical light for compact/subcompact firearms which puts out 115 lumens in concert with a green laser. Green lasers are visible under a wider range of light conditions than red. In some recent low light training sessions, I could easily define green at dusk when red would have been impossible to track.

One issue which limits the appeal of white light/laser combos is the lack of duty-style holsters. Light bearing duty holsters are readily available, but you will

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NEWS

Social Media Links Community and Police, Combats Crime

The Oakland (CA) Police Department (OPD) is utilizing social media to help reduce crime. During a preliminary investigation, officers were able to obtain descriptions of a shooter, his companion and a description of a vehicle associated with them. The Oakland Police Department's commander for the area in which the shooting occurred issued a community alert using the Web site, **Nixle.com**.

Later the same day, a member of the community, having seen the Nixle alert, reported the vehicle's location. Officers were then able to locate a man matching the shooter's description and recovered a firearm.

In a press release, the OPD said, "As we strive to improve our relationships with the community, these new methods of communication continue to prove how we can work together to solve and reduce crime."

In fall 2013, the IACP conducted its fourth annual survey about law enforcement's use of social media. Some of the survey's highlights include:

- 95.9 % of agencies surveyed use social media in some capacity;
- The most common use of social media is for criminal investigations (86.1%);
- The most frequently used social media platforms are Facebook (92.1%), Twitter (64.8%), and YouTube (42.9%);
- 80.4% of agencies report that social media has helped solve crimes in their jurisdiction; and
- 73.1% of agencies state that social media has improved police/community relations in their jurisdiction.

A total of 500 law enforcement agencies participated in the survey. For more information about the survey or IACP's Center for Social Media, visit **www.IACPsocialmedia.org**.

The Streamlight® TLR-4™ G combines a green laser with an intensive white illuminator.

have a much tougher time finding one for the X400 or TLR-4. Blade-Tech™ Industries, however, does manufacture duty-style and tactical holsters for combination units and they come highly recommended.

Options for Shoulder Weapons

To date, lasers on shoulder weapons have been pretty much limited to the military and SWAT cops. There are some newer technologies which make laser sights available to patrol coppers as well.

Small rail mounted units like the Uni-Max or Genesis from LaserMax could work. Another consideration is the MVF-515 from Crimson Trace which is essentially a vertical foregrip with a white light and a red or green laser. It can be easily affixed to the forend rail of an AR-15 or similar rifle.

Laser sights on long guns bring all of the same attributes to the table, including better hit potential when moving or firing from non-typical positions. Lasers speak a universal language and one affixed to a rifle, shotgun or SMG can be used to coerce a subject into compliance and avert the need for deadly force.

The Crimson Trace MVF-515 combines white light and a laser in a vertical foregrip. Green and red laser units are available.

Train for Success

Having cool gear is nice, but, if you don't know what to do with it, it only serves as a fashion statement. In fact, any sort of safety equipment used improperly becomes a liability rather than an asset.

One of the first things officers need to understand is that lasers work both ways. Much like a white light, an aggressor can track a laser back to its source and fire in that direction. In low light environments where armed hostiles can be nearby, prematurely activating your laser will serve as a locator for the bad guys.

While a laser will get you on target, it will not help in regard to threat location and assessment. Practice should include working with a light source in concert with your laser. By combining these two technologies, you are in a much better position to make an informed decision relative to applying deadly force.

When conducting training on laser equipped firearms, I like to incorporate drills where students can actually experience the advantages afforded. Cover remains a vital tactic in ensuring officer safety. By using a laser sight, officers typically are able to minimize their exposure from cover and still get off accurate shots. Exercises which emphasize shooting while moving, or shooting at moving targets, also reinforce laser advantages.

A laser sight does nothing to correct a poor grip or trigger control. You still need to execute the fundamentals of combat shooting in order to hit. Assuming you have those fundamentals pretty much

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squared away, they will get you on target. Several years ago, Crimson Trace did a study where 29 shots were fired by six officers who achieved 27 hits. Considering that the police hit rate hovers around 20%, it makes you wonder if we're on to something here.

Ultimately, a laser sighted firearm provides you with options and even greater flexibility. Quite simply, you don't have to use the laser capability. There are times, however, when it may be the smart way to go.

I especially like laser sights on small handguns commonly used for backup and off duty carry. Under optimum conditions, sights on small guns leave much to be desired. In poor light, you will not see them at all. My S&W J-Frame sports a set of Crimson Trace Lasergrips, while its stable mate, a Ruger LCP®, is equipped with a LaserMax CenterFire.

Laser sights have evolved from a novelty to potential lifesavers. Check them out and you, too, may come to an entirely different perspective. P&SN

About the Author: Captain Mike Boyle served with the New Jersey Division of Fish & Wildlife, Bureau of Law enforcement, and has been an active firearms instructor for more than 30 years. He has been an assistant police academy director and remains active as an academy rangemaster and instructor. Mike has served on the Board of Directors of the International Association of Law Enforcement Firearms Instructors (IALEFI) since 1996. He is the architect and coordinator of IALEFI's Master Instructor Development Program.

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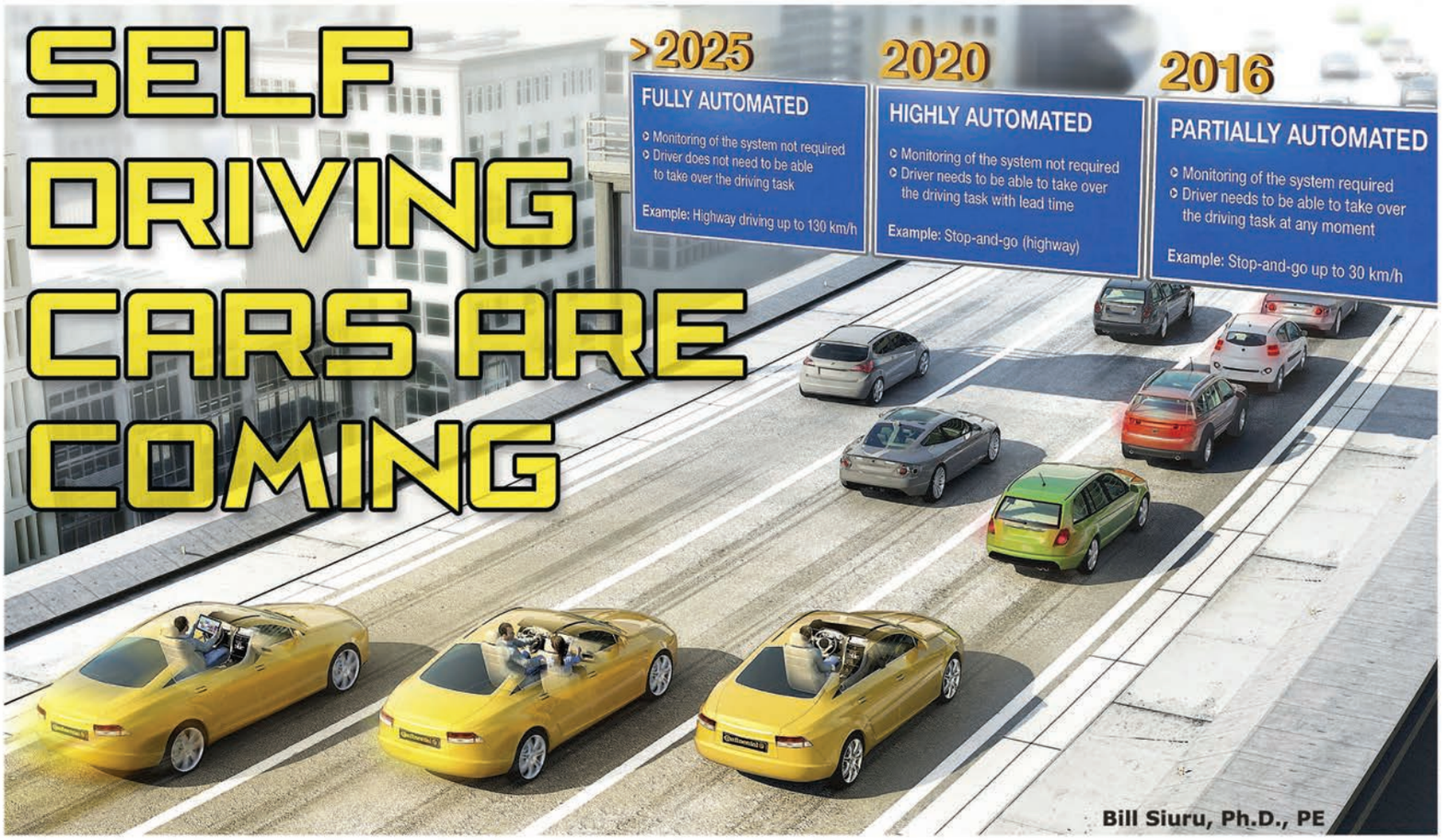
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Bill Siuru, Ph.D., PE

Advanced electronics and computing technologies could make the first highly automated production vehicles available as early as 2020 with fully automated cars expected by 2025. This could impact law enforcement in a big way.

First, cops will be using them. In fact, today's cop cars already incorporate rudimentary autonomous technologies like cruise control; antilock brakes; stability and traction control; and pre-accident systems which sense an imminent crash and prepare air bags, reduce engine power, enhance braking and tighten seat belts to reduce injuries.

Secondly, cops will have to police roads filled with autonomous vehicles or pursue ones carrying the bad guys. The two big advantages being touted for automated vehicles are a reduction in traffic congestion and accidents, meaning reduced need for traffic enforcement and accident investigations.

Slowly, but Surely

Automation will come incrementally. Vehicles equipped with some type of self-driving technology are already in dealers' showrooms. Several automakers offer adaptive cruise control which automatically adjusts vehicle speed to maintain a safe following distance, automatically reducing speed or applying brakes should the vehicle ahead slow down or stop. Ford, Cadillac, Lexus, BMW and others offer parking assistance which automatically steers, while applying the throttle and brakes, to maneuver into, or out of, a parking space. Since cop cars start out as civilian vehicles, they will already come with some robotic technology.

Sensors and computers can already do a better job in monitoring surroundings and provide faster reaction times compared to humans. Therefore, vehicles could travel at closer following distances and higher speeds to increase highway capacities without laying down more pavement. Since Vehicle-to-Vehicle (V2V) and Vehicle-to-Infrastructure (V2I) are part of the autonomous vehicle equation, onboard systems can receive and factor in information on traffic, road, weather and other conditions ahead. Smart computing would eliminate the stop-and-go which results in traffic jams. However, since vehicles remain on the road for years (and even decades), it could be a long time before this benefit of reduced congestion is fully felt.

A self-driving car could make freeway driving in heavy traffic safer and less stressful while allowing more vehicles to use the roadway.

As an example, Traffic Jam Assistant, debuting in the BMW i3 electric car, maintains a safe distance between vehicles, controls speed and steering, and can stop the car, if necessary. As long as the driver keeps one hand on the steering wheel, it keeps the car precisely in its lane at speeds of up to 25 mph. BMW's Traffic Light Assistant (now in development) communicates with traffic lights to help eliminate constant stopping and starting at traffic lights by providing the optimum speed to match the timing of the traffic lights. In the future, this could be done automatically in a manner similar to active cruise control.

Fewer Accidents

Widespread use of autonomous cars will reduce accidents since human error is the leading cause of traffic accidents. Indeed, much of the automated technology now appearing in vehicles is aimed at reducing accidents. Of course, automated vehicle technology will have to be perfected, so this is not just replaced by machine error.

Both V2V and V2I communication will help provide warning of potential accident situations. For example, passive obstacle, lane change and blind spot detection systems already available could be made active by adding information from other vehicles and the road.

Distracted, drowsy and, even, drunk driving could be a thing of the past. Systems by BMW's

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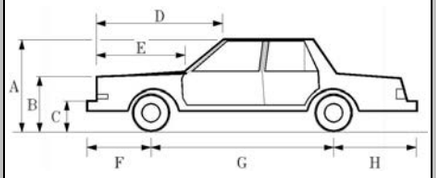

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Emergency Stop Assistant monitors the driver for incapacitation. If its biosensors detect that the driver is having a medical emergency, it will take over and bring the vehicle to a safe stop on the side of the road. It will also call for help and activate emergency flashers. It could be adapted to detect a drunk driver. Drowsy driver detection systems like Mercedes-Benz's Attention Assist and Volvo's Driver Alert are already here and not only warn drivers, but take over control should the warning not be heeded. Could a robotic car drive a drunk home?

Older Drivers

Automated vehicles could even let seniors drive safely longer before having to give up the keys. Sudden acceleration should be a thing of the past. Systems like BMW's Passive Front Protection will detect a possible collision – whether it be with another vehicle, an object or a kid on a bicycle – and alert the driver. If the driver doesn't react, braking will be applied automatically.

Some of the thinking in the automated vehicle community is to follow the philosophy used in today's airliners where most of the routine flying, including landings and takeoffs, are handled automatically with pilots there to handle the abnormal and emergency situations. Initially, automated vehicles would be used on freeways and interstates, with more complicated travelling on urban streets coming later.

Safety will always be an overriding consideration. For example, each driving situation will probably be assessed by at least two different and redundant measurement methods. All systems must operate at 100% reliability in every type of driving condition. Automated functions should always be capable of being overridden by the driver.

For police cars, robotic technology could reduce workload by taking over routine driving tasks while patrolling, so officers can work on reports, communicate or just observe better. Because computers and sensors can already do a better job in monitoring surroundings and provide faster reaction times compared to humans, they could make responding to incidents and high-speed pursuits safer.

photo courtesy of Subaru

Subaru's SHARC police pursuit vehicle operates without a police officer aboard.

A Glimpse into the Future

Perhaps, high-speed pursuits could be done by unmanned drones. In 2012, several automakers displayed "Highway Patrol Vehicle of 2025" concepts entered in the Los Angeles Auto Show's Design Challenge. Automation and unmanned drones were a key element of several concepts.

The winning – and most way-out – design was the Subaru Highway Automated Response Concept (SHARC) which operates autonomously, eliminating the need for a large full-time highway patrol staff. As a futuristic model for 24-hour highway monitoring, the SHARC provides protection and rapid emergency response solutions and is powered by renewable energy. This futuristic vehicle deflates and fits into a launch barrel when

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photo courtesy of BMW

The BMW ePatrol's main structure can deploy three drones; the top one is capable of flight.

photo courtesy of General Motors

General Motors' Volt Squad is a three vehicle system.

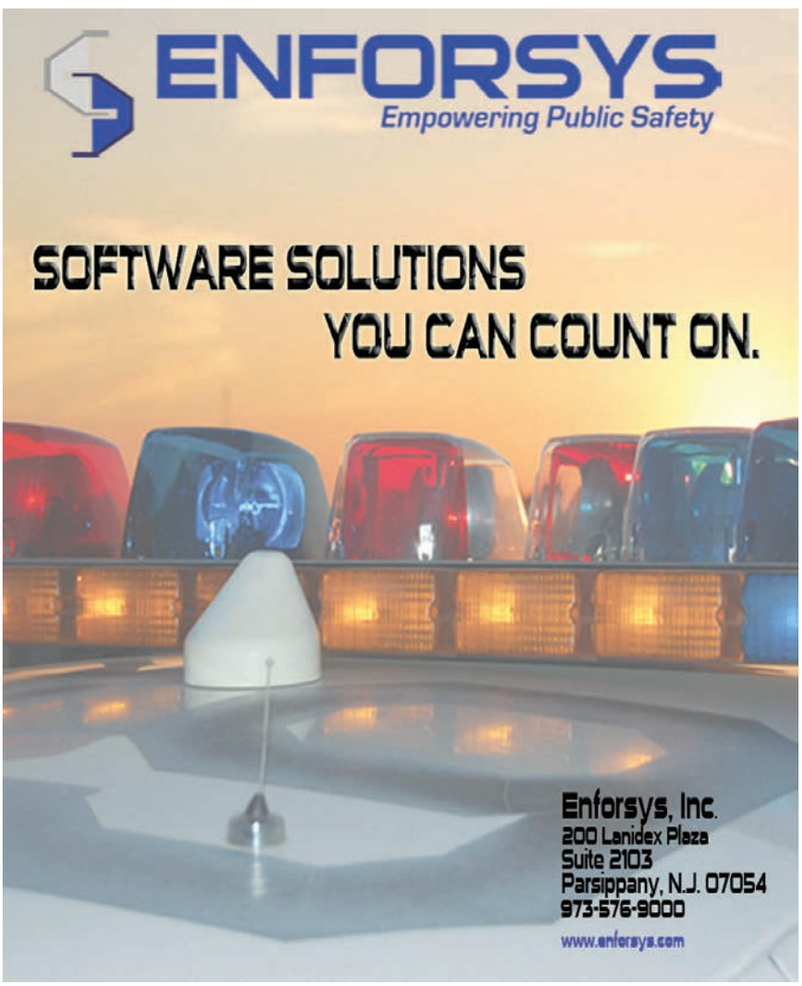
not on duty. The inflatable body skin is made of a flexible Kevlar® composite fabric so it can withstand extreme environments. Electromechanical flexible suspension arms, manufactured from an ionic polymer metal composite, bend and flex to take on preprogrammed shapes under varying amounts of applied voltage, allowing deflation of the vehicle.

The autonomous SHARC vehicle has a dual mode traction system. Here, flexible suspension arms adjust the wheel angles for maximum driveability under all conditions.

BMW's ePatrol Vision could eliminate car chases by deploying three drones to chase the suspect vehicle. These include an airborne Flying Pursuit Unit and two Advanced Pursuit Units single wheel vehicles. The top drone sits above the main structure and is capable of flight, while the other two are single wheel vehicles which are attached to the rear. In the case of a pursuit during heavy volume, the patrol officer sitting in the dual passenger main structure can deploy either the flying drone or one of the single wheel drones to chase the suspect. When all three drones are deployed, the main structure can continue to function. These drones can also deliver a disabling impulse to immobilize pursued vehicles.

Honda offered two futuristic concepts: the CHP Drone Squad from their Advanced Design Studio in California and the CHiPs 2025 Traffic Crawler from their Advanced Design Studio in Tokyo. The CHP Drone Squad features drones for use in harsh environments which can be deployed without the need for new infrastructure.

The Drone Squad is comprised of a two vehicle system. The Auto-Drone operates as a manned



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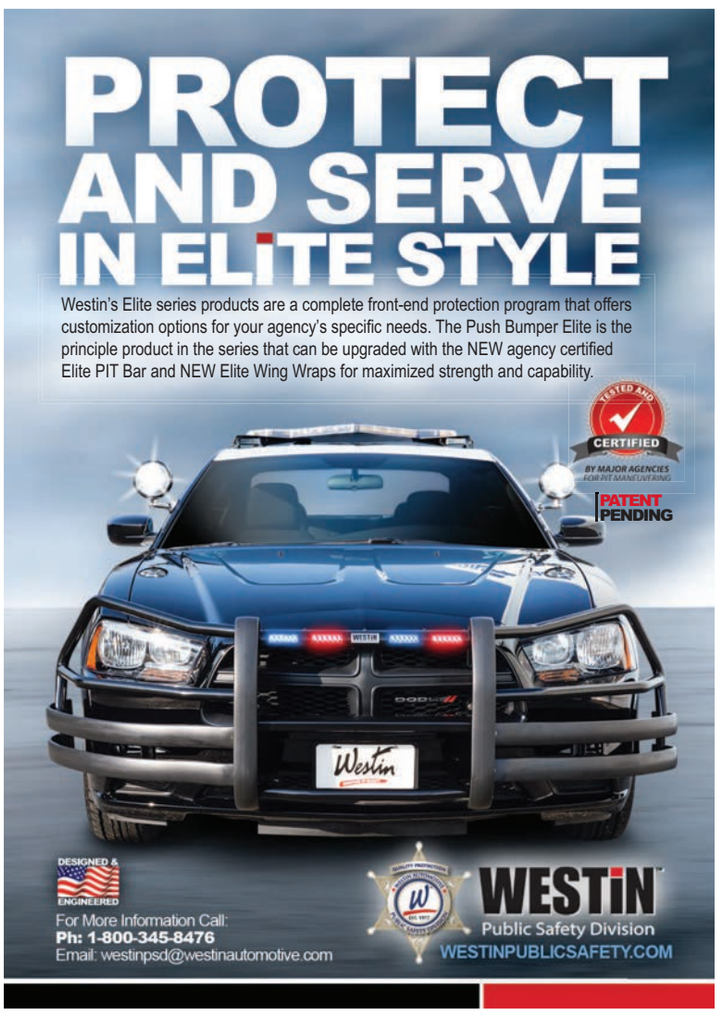
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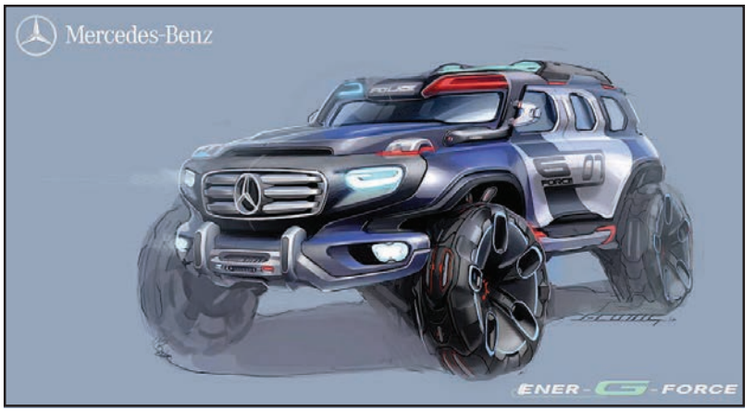

photo courtesy of Mercedes-Benz

The Ener-G-Force concept from Mercedes utilizes four individual in-wheel motors.

or unmanned mission control vehicle which deploys Moto-Drones. Moto-Drones are unmanned motorcycles which can be used for multiple response and rescue missions. The 2025 Traffic Crawler is a hydrogen powered, three-wheeled motorcycle.

The General Motors' Advanced Design Center's Volt Squad is a three vehicle "fleet." This includes a command vehicle, a ground-based pursuit vehicle and an airborne unit. The concept is electric powered and is based on a future evolution of the Voltec™ drivetrain which is currently used in the Chevrolet Volt.

Mercedes-Benz's Ener-G-Force is based on their G-Class SUV which has been around since the 1970s (although updated throughout the years). The law enforcement Ener-G-Force has a similar profile to the civilian version, however, with a higher shoulder line and scaled-down glass areas. Emergency lighting integrated into the roof is very high profile and the impressive large wheels of this vehicle provide quite a commanding presence.

Recycled water carried in tanks on the roof is transferred to the "hydro-tech converter," for conversion into hydrogen for the fuel cells which power this vehicle. Four wheel hub motors are utilized and the output for each individual wheel is specifically adapted to various terrain by high-tech electronics. A 360° topography scanner on the roof surveys the surroundings and uses the results to adjust the spring and damping rates, as well as other suspension parameters, to provide maximum traction.

Bumps in the Road

There are several challenges to automated vehicles. First, there is the cost. LIDAR (laser radar), ultrasound sensors, computer vision systems, and other sophisticated electronics are expensive. Fortunately, they are electronics whose prices typically drop dramatically with widespread use.

Secondly, governmental regulations limit – and, in most cases, prohibit – the use of driverless cars on public roads. These will have to be changed to allow even already existing technology to be used everywhere legally. Fortunately, this already is happening. Three states – Nevada, Florida and California – are the first states to pass legislature addressing self-driving vehicles.

Finally, lawyers and courts could be kept busy sorting our liability and responsibility issues when an automated vehicle crashes. Who is at fault – the man or the machine? PSN

About the Author: Bill Siuru is a retired USAF colonel. He has a Ph.D. in mechanical engineering from Arizona State University. His military assignments included teaching engineering at West Point, commander of the research laboratory at the U.S. Air Force Academy and Director of Engineering at Wright-Patterson AFB. For the past 35 years, he has been writing about automotive, aviation and technology subjects.

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NEWS

ONDP: Five Things to Know About Opioid Overdoses

1. More Americans are using and dying from prescription painkillers than from heroin.

2. There is no such thing as a "good batch" of heroin versus a "tainted batch" of heroin. Any heroin use can lead to a fatal overdose. The Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDP) is aware of reports of fentanyl abuse from information provided by coroners and medical examiners in Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, New Jersey, Maryland, and Michigan, and are monitoring this closely.

3. Heroin and prescription drug abuse are not limited to any certain demographic or geographic area. The ONDP has, however, seen indications that heroin use is increasing among young adults which is a serious concern.

4. The vast majority of heroin in the United States comes from Colombia and Mexico.

5. Every overdose is preventable. The Obama Administration is encouraging first responders to carry the overdose reversal drug, Naloxone. Used in concert with "Good Samaritan" laws which grant immunity from criminal prosecution to those seeking medical help for someone experiencing an overdose, it can and will save lives.

For more information, see **www.whitehouse.gov/blog/2014/02/11/5-things-know-about-opioid-overdoses**.

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Modernized Response to AN ACTIVE SHOOTER INCIDENT

Dr. Stephenie Slahor

Knowing that active shooter situations are unpredictable and evolve quickly, law enforcement continues to work on reducing the number of victims when these incidents occur.

There have been emerging concepts in both individual and agency response to an active shooter situation. Discussing these considerations was Lt. Darin Griem of the Sacramento County (CA) Sheriff's Department. His remarks came during the Leadership Summit of the California Peace Officers' Association at their annual COPSWEST Summit and Expo held late last year in Ontario, CA.

Lt. Griem recounted that having the right protocols and response strategies in place are vital toward minimizing or preventing active shooter incidents. Such incidents are, he said, "galvanizing" police officers and agencies toward making sure everything possible is done to protect the safety of communities, educational facilities and other public venues.

Begin with a review of existing plans and procedures and the current training curriculum, Griem said, adding that collaboration with stakeholders, such as school districts, public venue managers, etc., also needs to be done by agencies.

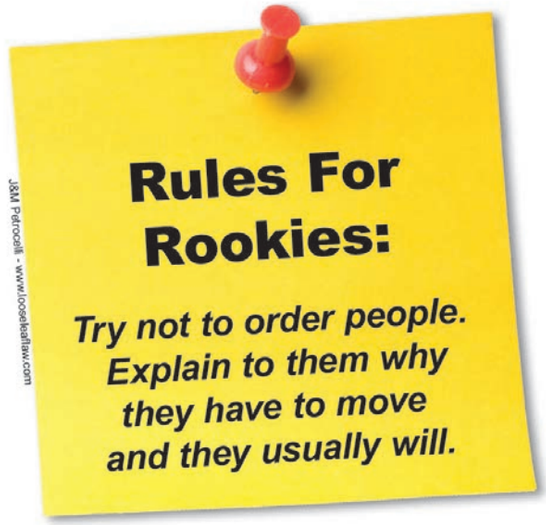
Quick Reaction

Law enforcement's emphasis must be on a swift and immediate deployment of resources because resolution of the incident is the responsibility of first responders. Yet, many decisions fall on the officers first on the scene. Their reactions to the situation are to contain and control it, but, being first there, they may easily be overcome by the event or overreact to it, Griem stated.

Police administrators must filter through existing and possible procedures so that relevant information and action create the most useful and timely tactics. "Have you prepared your officers to handle these decisions?" Griem queried. "Can watch commanders give up authority to them?" Often, the situation must be defused or handled well before a SWAT team can actually arrive on the scene. Time, special teams, negotiations and tactics are all involved and delays while waiting for a decision maker to arrive, or to act, might result in a "recipe for disaster," Griem said.

Attention must turn to plans and procedures in place for a "real-time" response. Then, as information and the event unfold, there is a sound basis for actions which will "locate, isolate and neutralize the suspect" with arrest, disruption, distraction or incapacitation, Griem said. That kind of response has "extraordinary training implications," he stated, but must be planned and readied because "clearly, this [active shooter incidents] is not something that's going away anytime soon," he said.

For those incidents resolved after police arrived, force resolved the incident in 56% of the cases.


Rules For Rookies:
Try not to order people. Explain to them why they have to move and they usually will.
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Nationwide Statistics

Griem cited recent statistics which indicate that the national average of such incidents is 12 minutes in duration, with about 63% less than 15 minutes in duration and 37% less than five minutes in duration. In effect, the incident could well be resolved before a special team/SWAT arrives. Training all officers in plans and procedures is vital, rather than just engaging a SWAT team, Griem explained.

As to the site of such incidents, studies show that 34% have occurred at schools, 37% at businesses, 17% at public venues, and the remainder at other locations.

Suspects are male in 97% of the incidents which have occurred. Most are ages 21-50, but have ranged from ages 13-88. In these cases, 60% of the suspects used a pistol, 27% used a rifle, ten percent used a shotgun, and three percent had an unknown weapon. Only four percent wore some type of body armor.

In regard to the early resolution of the incidents studied, 39% saw the victims themselves stopping the suspect. In 51% of the incidents, the suspect committed suicide. In ten percent of the incidents, the suspect was gone before police arrived.

For those incidents resolved after police arrived, force resolved the incident in 56% of the cases; surrender of the suspect occurred in 14% of the cases; and suicide of the suspect occurred in 30% of the cases. The remainder of cases had a mix of outcomes. Griem pointed out that, in most instances, the suspect did not have an exit strategy.

"We cannot get complacent in training," Griem emphasized. Improvement must come in response time because time is "the most critical component," he said. Even single officer resolution is a possibility, he said, but, of course, it must be prudent and safe. The situation itself may dictate some of

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NEWS

Downed Officer Kit Helps Save Dallas Officer

Just ten weeks after new Downed Officer Kits (DOKs) were issued to Dallas Police Department officers, a DOK was used to treat an officer wounded in the line of duty. Lt. Alex Eastman, the PD's Deputy Medical Director, said, "Immediately after Officer Joshua Burns sustained multiple gunshot wounds on duty, fellow officers came to his aid using the contents of the DOK. Fellow officers applied a tourniquet and used gauze to treat Officer Burns' wounds, stopping his bleeding, prior to the arrival of Dallas Fire-Rescue."

The DOK contains hemorrhage control equipment and is designed to allow officers to save a life in the event of injury.

Eastman continued, "While designed to give officers the equipment and knowledge to save our own, over 1,500 kits have been deployed into the field and are on the streets of Dallas, making our community safer." Dallas Police officers are now trained and equipped to control massive bleeding right at the point of injury. "While we never want to see an officer or citizen injured," Eastman said, "we are more prepared now to save lives when the unthinkable happens."

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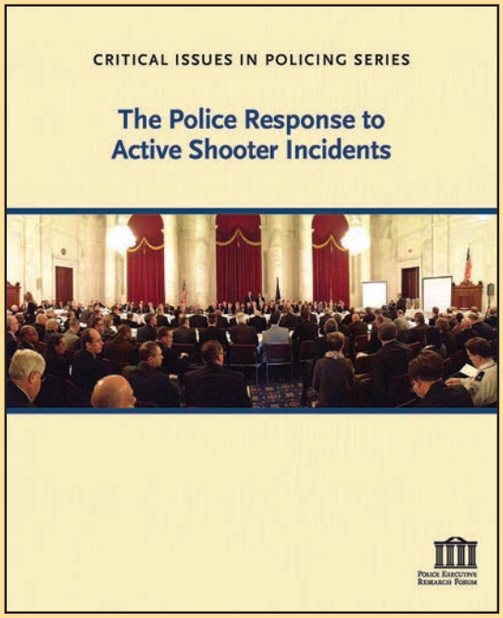
PERF Report Details Changes in Police Response to Active Shooter Incidents



The Police Executive Research Forum (PERF) has released *The Police Response to Active Shooter Incidents* which describes changes in police departments' practices in responding to mass shootings, such as the ones which occurred at the Sandy Hook Elementary School and the Washington, DC, Navy Yard.

The report, which is part of the "Critical Issues in Policing" series supported by the Motorola Solutions Foundation, is based on PERF research and information provided by police chiefs and other experts at a 2013 conference held by PERF.

Today's policies and practices are focused on reducing the number of victims when an active shooter incident happens. There is an emphasis on engaging the shooter as quickly as possible and not necessarily waiting for SWAT or other special units to arrive.

In addition, police, fire and emergency medical services are conducting joint training designed to get medical assistance to gunshot victims as quickly as possible. Sometimes, this involves allowing EMS workers to enter "warm zones" before it is certain that the shooter, or shooters, has been apprehended. And, police officers can be trained to give lifesaving medical care.

The report also describes efforts by police to work with other governmental and private organizations to prevent active shooter incidents by identifying persons who may pose a threat and helping them to get treatment for mental illness or other needs.

Finally, the report discusses ways in which police can educate community members about what to do if they are confronted with an active shooting situation.

To download a copy of the report, visit **http://tinyurl.com/kh63fra**.

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the time constraints, such as an incident in a rural area in which response time is delayed, or at a school where there is only a single resource officer on scene. Yet, a single officer response could create an opportunity to seize the initiative to disrupt and distract the suspect who is then thrown into the role of being reactionary, not the aggressor/controller. That might shift the suspect's attention from the victims or provoke the suspect to suicide. "Clearly, it's not ideal for single officer response, but the difference between what is desirable and what is possible can be substantial," Griem said.

Additional Considerations

He also advised considering the location of the incident; the possible number of suspects; the threat level of the weapons and their capabilities; the distance away that backup units might be; the number and capabilities of officers on scene; and weapons and resources available. "Use speed, aggression and surprise," he said. Whether to confront or to engage from cover must also be decided.

Ideally, police and EMS should be optimally aligned to prevent loss or further loss, Griem said. Techniques such as the military's "Tactical Combat Casualty Care" might be applicable to a situation because it would allow immediate medical care – whether or not the scene is fully secured. "Throw kits" of first aid and wound care can be pitched in to those on scene who can then assist with first aid and preventing additional casualties.

Another consideration to make would be ways to gain access to the target structure and the suspect, even if he is not barricaded, said Griem. Know what is available or what can be used – keys, a ram, tools, sledgehammers,

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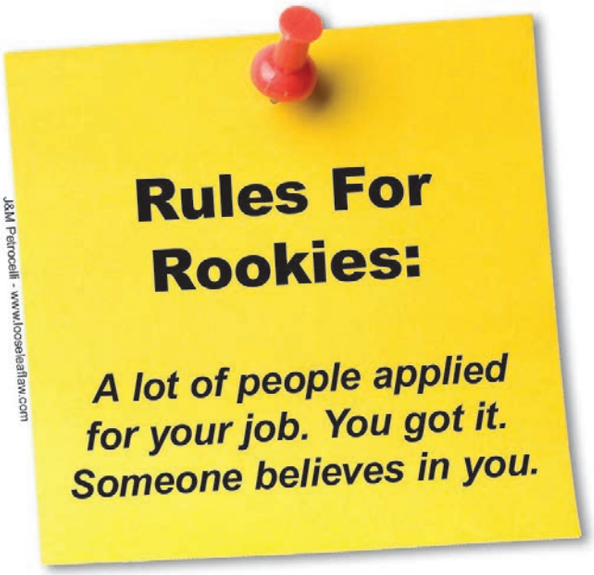
Rules For Rookies:
A lot of people applied for your job. You got it. Someone believes in you.
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pry bars, axes, bolt cutters, etc. A ballistic/shotgun breach may be necessary because many facilities have steel doors and/or frames which open outward.

Griem added that public education is important to preventing or minimizing active shooter incidents. Teaching the public to "run or hide or fight" helps them consider ways to survive in the event of an incident.

Griem concluded, "It's the actions and the context in which it all occurs" which must be analyzed to decide the procedures which can be used and the ways to reduce imminent danger and to control the incident.

About the Author: Stephenie Slahor, Ph.D., J.D., is a writer in the fields of law enforcement and security. She can be reached at drss12@msn.com.

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Circle 3147 for More Information

Hero911 Issues Active School Shootings Alerts

A new social network is using mobile technology to provide an increased level of protection during school shootings as they unfold. The national Hero911 Network is a voluntary, nonprofit group of federal, state and local law enforcement officers dedicated to reducing response times to active school shooting incidents.

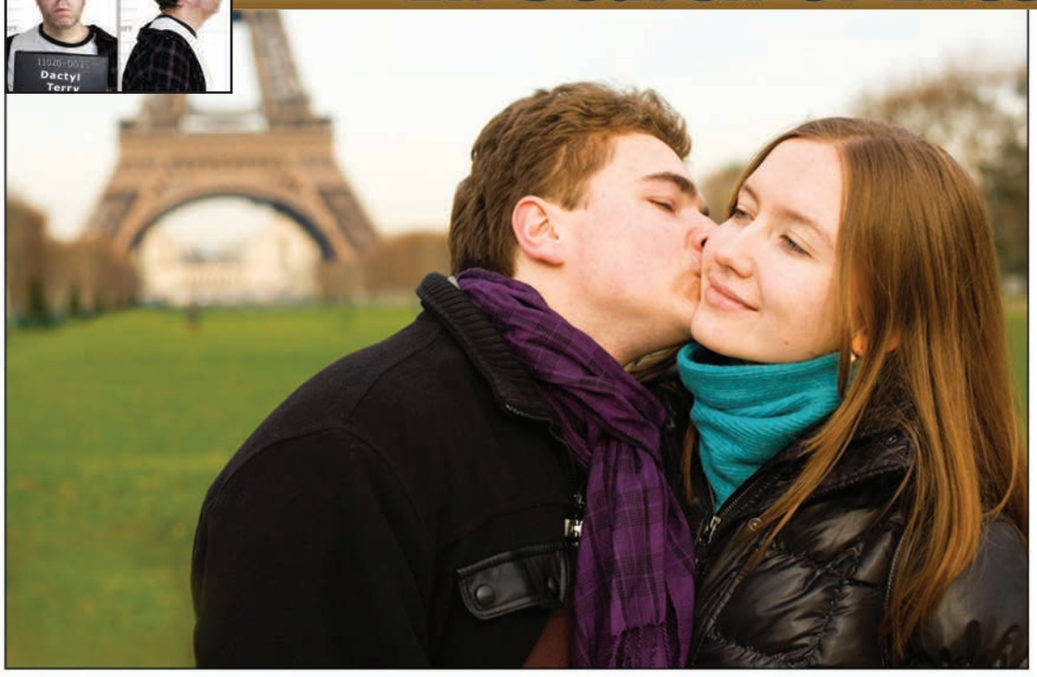
The launch of the group's Hero911 app is designed to increase the number of officers – on or off duty – who can respond to these incidents and save as many students and teachers as possible.

Any of the nearly 900,000 active federal, state or local law enforcement officers nationwide can download the Hero911 app for free on their iOS and Android smartphones. Even retired officers who go through annual certification to carry their weapons are eligible to join this social protection network. Once applicants complete the sign-up process, they will be vetted to confirm they are in fact law enforcement officers. Once confirmed, their app will be activated and they will receive an emergency alert if they are in close proximity to an active school shooting.

The Hero911 app will work in concert with the Hero911 Network's new companion app for teachers and school staff. The SchoolGuard app is a uniquely designed panic button for smartphones which will allow a teacher to speed dial 911 while simultaneously alerting all other teachers and school staff, neighboring schools and nearby on and off duty police via the Hero911 Network. SchoolGuard is currently being implemented in schools and school districts across the nation. The apps will display a Google map with the building's footprint and pinpoint the location within the school where the initial alert was triggered. The responders and teachers can use this information for situational awareness of the incident and egress to safety.

For more information, go to **www.Hero911.org** or **www.SchoolGuard.com**.

In Search of Intelligent Life



James L. McClinton, Ph.D

L'AMOUR TOUJOURS!...

In Paris, France, two men followed the manager of a jewelry store to her home, tied her up and demanded that she give them the codes to the store's alarm system and safes. After the terrified woman gave them the information, the men untied her and, as they were leaving, one of them gave her a kiss on the cheek. The woman called the police and, after telling them her story, one of the officers swabbed her cheek to see if the passionate thief had left a DNA sample. It turned out that he had. And, he happened to be a wanted man whose DNA was in the national genetic database. The two thieves were arrested soon afterwards. *(Maybe there's something to this "cooties" thing after all!)*

"Son, you know that little father/son talk I've been putting off for the last 40 years or so...?"... A 70-year-old Italian man who was feeling somewhat "randy" hired an escort one evening while he was out of town. When the lady of the evening arrived, he was stunned to find that she seemed strangely familiar. The professional "care provider" was his son's 40-year-old fiancée! The man was conflicted as to whether or not to tell his son what the woman he was about to marry does for a living. To their credit, the two decided not to go ahead with their – ahem – liaison. (His son thought the woman was a waitress.) The man eventually told his son what happened. Now, four years later, the pair are still duking it out in court, where the son has sued his father for "injuries." It's unclear if these are physical or psychological injuries. The son appears to be in total denial and there is no word on whether the couple still got married. The father and son, however, still don't get along since the judge was reportedly unable to broker a truce between them. *(A family that plays together, pays together...but not for long!)*

There are those who never manage to outgrow the need for a pacifier... In Stuart, Florida, a man took his pregnant wife into the hospital so she could give birth to the couple's new baby. Like any father to be, the man was very nervous. However, unlike most fathers to be, he had a somewhat unorthodox way of dealing with his anxiety. He took out his high-tech vaporizer which was filled with raw cannabis and started "vaping" right there in the delivery room – not a good idea. A nurse caught a whiff of the high-tech pot and called the police. The new daddy was busted just as his son was coming into the world. *(Let's hope his son is not a "chip off the old block[head]!")*

How do you find an interested buyer for stolen goods? Easy, just ask the person you stole them from!... Four teenage burglary suspects were arrested after they unknowingly attempted to sell stolen items back to the victim, Denver police said. A 24-year-old resident found a kitchen window broken and several items stolen when she returned home and asked police to meet her at a nearby McDonald's® (because she felt unsafe in her home). "I pulled into the McDonald's parking lot and two guys approached my car and asked me if I wanted to buy a PS3™ [video game console]," she said. "I see another guy walking out, trying to approach my car, and he's wearing the jacket I believe belonged to me." It then occurred to her the teenage salesmen were attempting to sell her possessions back to her. She approached off duty Denver police officers at a nearby gas station, who arrested the four unidentified suspects for investigation of burglary. *(The fact that one of the male thieves was wearing the female victim's jacket suggests that they live in an alternate reality!)*

How many of us have ever felt like doing this to a candy bar machine?... An Iowa man has lost his job and unemployment benefits for using a forklift to get a candy bar from a malfunctioning vending machine. According to state unemployment records, the 27-year-old Spirit Lake man was working at Polaris Industries' warehouse in Milford when the incident occurred. The man wanted some candy, so he deposited a dollar into a vending machine for a 90¢ TWIX® candy bar, but the candy bar got snagged on a hook and wouldn't fall. He banged it and rocked it, but that didn't work. He then commandeered a forklift, picked up the machine at least six times and dropped it about two feet onto the concrete floor. Three candy bars fell out. He was fired five days later. *(What he wanted was a candy bar – what he needed was a time-out!)*

"Okay, so here's 'Plan B': We ask the detention officers to give us their uniforms and take our place in the cell!"... Two men broke into a home in the Lincoln Heights section of Los Angeles, unaware that the resident had, only moments earlier, called 911 after spotting them on his surveillance camera. When police arrived outside, the suspects asked the resident to tie all three of them up, so that they all would appear to be "victims" of the invaders who had supposedly fled. The resident complied, but, when police entered the home, the resident, of course, immediately squealed on the tied-up suspects, ensuring their arrest. Two associates, who were outside standing lookout, were also arrested. Said one officer, "That's what you call felony stupid." *(Hey, everyone has the right to be stupid – it's just that some of us abuse the privilege.)*

This guy will make a fine elected official – he's already shown that he knows how to "shoot himself in the foot!"... "What a way to get publicity," sighed the 60-year-old Chief of Police in Connersville, Indiana, who is running for Fayette County sheriff. He went to a gun shop to check out the newest version of the GLOCK® .40 caliber pistol he carries on the job and managed to shoot himself. He apparently tried the new gun in his holster and, when he was putting his own gun back, "It got tangled in my clothing," he said. "I felt [the gun] go in the holster and I pushed it, but it was tangled in the material which caused it to discharge. The bullet went into my leg and then into the floor." He takes full responsibility: "I need to pay more attention. I know what the dangers are. It was pure carelessness on my part." Just like the last time, 15 years ago, when he shot himself in the hand while unloading his gun. "That one really hurt," he said. *(Since this is the second time he shot himself, he should either exchange his firearm for a "Buford Stick" or transfer to animal control!)*

New Technology

New Tactical Pole Camera

TacView® introduces the **Patrol PV (Patrol Version) Tactical Pole Camera** which features a weatherproof IR/color, Super HAD camera head with 400 lines of resolution, a 6.0 mm lens, an IR illuminator which turns on automatically – all contained in a two inch black metal housing with a Pyrex® lens tough enough to break a window. The 6.5" color/IR TFT monitor operates in temperatures from -4°F to 176°F. The **Patrol PV** is powered by one high capacity NiMH rechargeable battery and smart charger with an emergency backup power supply which can hold eight AA alkaline batteries or lithium batteries.

Circle 3149 for More Information

New Cooling T-Shirt

Phoenix Armor™ announces production of the **Swamp Cooler**™ utility T-shirt which will keep you 55% cooler. The patent pending, ribbed design T-shirt functions similarly to an evaporative cooling system. It acts as a protective barrier providing physical and sensorial comfort while regulating temperature, moisture, and friction when worn against the skin underneath body armor or other garments. This cooling and drying process is dissipated through three mechanisms attributed to the textile and the vertical welt ribbing: conduction, convection, and evaporation.

Circle 3151 for More Information

New Lockout Tool

The **Super Easy Wedge**, from Steck Manufacturing Co., is a larger version of their Easy Wedge which is used with their BigEasy Lockout Kit. Once inserted, inflate the **Wedge** to the desired size and insert the BigEasy tool to safely unlock the vehicle. The 7" x 9" inflatable **Wedge** is made from ballistic nylon and the exterior has a 30-gauge polypropylene insert for stiffness which will help with ease of insertion; it has a contact area of 2 1/2" x 4 1/2", giving the **Wedge** 168.75 pounds of force and the bulb size has been increased by 50%.

Circle 3153 for More Information

New Bike Short

Mocean has introduced the **10" Long Rider Bike Short**, designed for utility and comfort. Featuring a double snap waist, 1/2" elastic in the back, and floating belt loops for duty belt comfort, the **Long Rider** is made of 100% Supplex Nylon® and has a proprietary stretch woven "X-Factor™" fabric sewn into the gusset and seat panels which will not tear or pill. With double needle construction, this short also has a back welt pocket and two on seam pockets; two anatomically designed cargo pockets; will not shrink, fade or stain; and is machine washable and dryable.

Circle 3154 for More Information

New Blueguns for GLOCK®s

Ring's Manufacturing has introduced the **GLOCK 41 Gen4 and the GLOCK 42 bluegun** replicas to their line of products. Molded from solid blue polyurethane to differentiate them from live weapons, they are exact replicas of the originals, allowing officers to train in safe tactical scenarios without the need to use their duty firearms. This also protects their live weapons from accidental damage during training exercises.

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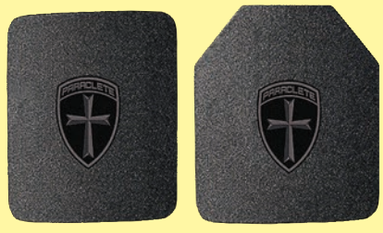

New Hard Armor Plates

The **hard armor plates** offered by Point Blank Enterprises under its PARACLETE® line are capable of defeating high-powered Level III and IV rounds, either in combination with soft body armor systems or as a stand-alone. The **plates** are available in a choice of two shapes – full-size or shooter's cut – which are designed to meet officers' individual needs for comfort and function. A total of five different sizes are available.

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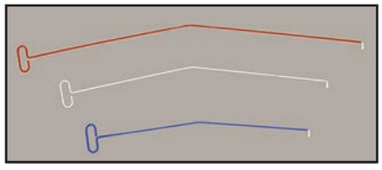

New Auto Entry Tool Kit

The **All American™ Reach-It Set**, from Next Generation Tool Co., offers the versatility needed to unlock cars quickly. These long reaching tools, when paired with their Inflatable Wedge or Rhino Pry Wedge, provide safe, damage-free auto entry. The **All American Reach-It Set** comes in three different lengths (40", 44", and 58"); is red, white, and blue; is offered at a very patriotic price; and you'll receive a 15% police discount!

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